The University of Miami’s Working Group in Native American and Global Indigenous Studies (NAGIS) comprises faculty, staff, and students from the College of Arts and Sciences, the School of Law, the Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science, the Abess Center for Ecosystem Science and Policy, the Miller School of Medicine, the Communication School, the School of Nursing and Health Studies, UM Libraries, and the Lowe Art Museum. Our interdisciplinary project aims to make the Indigenous past and present of South Florida, our hemisphere, and the world a more meaningful realm of scholarly inquiry and social engagement for the entire UM community. Recognizing the need to support and amplify Native American and Indigenous voices across our campuses, we aim to provide an immediate opportunity for undergraduate and graduate students to consider the complex histories, lived experiences, and perspectives of Native peoples in relation to multiple areas of knowledge, as well as to their own lives.

With the support of U-LINK Social Equity funding, we are working over the course of AY 2020-21 to develop a program of study for undergraduate and graduate students that builds upon existing human, informational, and community resources. One key component of this collective effort will be to include in UM’s permanent curriculum -- across disciplines, departments, and schools -- a series of courses that can be cross-listed with NAGIS when the program is finalized (tentatively, in AY 2021-22).

To this end, the Working Group solicits applications from UM faculty who would like to join this initiative by creating NAGIS courses in their respective fields. Ten applicants will be selected to receive a course development grant of $1,500. Proposed courses can cover any discipline, region, or time period, and should include a significant emphasis on Indigenous Studies. To the extent possible, courses should be open to students from diverse fields of study. Grantees should agree to: 1) share prepared syllabi with the NAGIS Working Group by May 15, 2021; 2) obtain support from their home departments to add their course to the UM Bulletin under the appropriate subject area; and 3) cross-list the course with a NAGIS course section once the program is formally established. Courses that include experiential and community engagement components or that utilize research collections at UM are particularly welcomed.

Please submit for consideration: 1) a two-page description of the course, including a provisional bibliography and/or list of resources; 2) a bio or CV for the faculty member(s) who will teach the course; and 3) a prospective timeframe for teaching the course. Please combine all materials into a single PDF document and send to nagis@miami.edu.