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MPA Tribal Governance Concentration
The Evergreen State College
2700 Evergreen Parkway NW
Olympia WA 98505

Admission Requirements and Financial Aid

The Evergreen MPA Tribal Governance Concentration admits students every other year. New cohorts begin in even years.

Admission requirements:

- A bachelor's degree from an accredited institution of higher education (students may be accepted pending completion of the degree). No GRE is required.
- A minimum grade point average of 3.0 for the last 90 quarter credits (or equivalent) of work toward a Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree. There is some room for flexibility with this requirement, and interested students should contact the college to inquire about applying.
- Evidence of writing, analytical, and general communication skills of high quality, and at a level appropriate for graduate study.
- A course in statistics (4 credits), completed within the past three years.

Financial Aid

Many students are eligible for some form of financial aid. The college offers a number of scholarships, fellowships, and tuition waivers. Most students will also qualify for student loans. Additionally, many students of the Tribal Governance concentration have been able to obtain assistance through educational benefits offered by their Tribes.

Our Graduates

Graduates of the MPA Tribal Governance concentration emerge as strong advocates and leaders both within their Tribes and with the agencies and nonprofit organizations where they work. Several graduates have gone on to pursue their PhDs, many in Indigenous Studies.



KENDRA AGUILAR MPA 2012
Tribal Governance, currently pursuing
her PHD in Indigenous Studies



AWN LEWIS, CHEHALIS, MPA '14

The biggest take-away for me was the Analytical Techniques I & II comprehensive research; bringing together our current and past work as teams and individuals. The amount of critical thinking and statistical data was conformed with law and ethics. I have been able to apply those learning techniques as an executive board member, manager, and now an associate director of a Tribal coalition.

*"No right is more sacred to a nation, to a people,
than the right to freely determine its social, economic, political,
and cultural future without external interference. The fullest expression
of this right occurs when a nation freely governs itself.
We call the exercise of this right Self-determination.
The practice of this right is Self-government."*

— Joe DeLaCruz (1937-2000), President of the Quinault Indian Nation (1971-1993)



MPA

Master of Public Administration

in Tribal Governance



 **the evergreen
state college**

**Master of Public
Administration**

Preparing Native Leaders

Evergreen’s MPA with a Tribal Governance concentration was created for present and future leaders who wish to actively engage in shaping Tribal public policy and administration. The concentration offers many opportunities for learning, research, professional development, and public engagement. No other college or university in the United States offers an advanced degree or professional credentials reflecting such in-depth specialization in contemporary Tribal governance.

The concentration:

- Focuses on critical issues specific to roles and responsibilities of Tribal government leaders and their staff and provides them with the knowledge and skills needed to work successfully in Indian Country.
- Informs those working with governmental or other organizations in a liaison role with Tribal governments.
- Offers an innovative and highly participatory curriculum that focuses on in-class work, cohort-style learning, and written evaluations rather than grades.
- Reflects the diversity of issues addressed by Tribes, including health, housing, education, youth, welfare, land use, law enforcement, human resources, transportation, fiscal policy, sustainability, and economic development.

Working with Local Tribes

Evergreen has an established history of working with Tribes in the Pacific Northwest. The college launched the country’s first MPA with a Tribal Governance concentration in 2002 to build a corps of Tribal citizens with the knowledge and skills to administer Tribal laws and policies and to create innovative institutions, processes, and programs to advance sovereignty. It was inspired by the legendary Quinault leader, Joe DeLaCruz, and guided by other Native American luminaries in Washington, including Billy Frank, Jr., Ron Allen, and John McCoy. With input from surveys, Tribes, and prospective students, the program’s curriculum was developed to equip Tribal members with the skills to carry out the increasingly complex work of Tribal governance. The concentration teaches students the core principles of public administration, integrating the cultural and specialized knowledge needed to work in Tribal governments, public agencies, and nonprofit organizations. Since it was created, the program has educated many outstanding leaders throughout the nation who are giving back to their Tribes and communities.



LEXIE TOM, LUMMI, MPA '14

I chose the Evergreen MPA program because it is the only program in the Pacific Northwest area that offers the Tribal Government Concentration. I am a Lummi Tribal member who is pursuing an education for the betterment of my community. A master’s degree in Tribal government fits the needs of my community.

Designed for Your Schedule

The Evergreen Tribal Governance MPA concentration is organized so that students who live a significant distance away from campus can attend. Courses are taught in an intensive format, meeting five sessions each quarter (three sessions for the core course and two sessions for the concentration course). Each session meets Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays, for a total of 20 hours. Students taking a full load of coursework (10 credits per quarter, in the fall, winter, and spring quarters, with some summer work) can finish the degree in two years.

TRIBAL GOVERNANCE	
Degree Requirements	
Core courses + Capstone	36 credits
Tribal Concentration Series	20 credits
Electives	4 credits
Total credits for degree	60 credits



The Evergreen MPA Tribal Governance Concentration

2700 Evergreen Parkway NW
Olympia WA 98506

For more information, call (360) 867-5541
or email evergreen.edu/mpa/tribal

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

evergreen.edu/mpa/tribal