



**SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS FORMS**

New Certificate

UNIVERSITY:	SDSU
TITLE OF PROPOSED CERTIFICATE:	Wizipan Leadership and Sustainability
INTENDED DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION:	2020-2021 Academic Year
PROPOSED CIP CODE:	05.0202
UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT:	College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences
UNIVERSITY DIVISION:	College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences

Please check this box to confirm that:

- The individual preparing this request has read [AAC Guideline 2.7](#), which pertains to new certificate requests, and that this request meets the requirements outlined in the guidelines.
- This request will not be posted to the university website for review of the Academic Affairs Committee until it is approved by the Executive Director and Chief Academic Officer.

University Approval

To the Board of Regents and the Executive Director: I certify that I have read this proposal, that I believe it to be accurate, and that it has been evaluated and approved as provided by university policy.

1/10/2020

Institutional Approval Signature

Date

President or Chief Academic Officer of the University

1. Is this a graduate-level certificate or undergraduate-level certificate?

Undergraduate Certificate

Graduate Certificate

2. What is the nature/ purpose of the proposed certificate? Please include a brief (1-2 sentence) description of the academic field in this certificate.

The undergraduate certificate in Wizipan Leadership and Sustainability will provide a semester long experience through a partnership between the Indian University of North America® at Crazy Horse Memorial® Foundation and the Wokini Initiative at South Dakota State University (SDSU). The Wizipan Leadership and Sustainability program will provide a holistic framework for integrating Indigenous knowledge and epistemologies. Based on the Lakota term – Wachante Hecha Wizipan (The Heart of Everything that Is) – the Wizipan program uses Indigenous learning systems, including experiential education, Indigenous narrative, language, culture, and kinship to land. This program finds connection between Indigenous land-based knowledge and sustainability. Wizipan by itself refers directly to the

Black Hills as a container for everything that is good – spiritually, physically, and culturally – making the Black Hills the perfect location for this program. The Wizipan program is grounded in the Lakota philosophy, Mitakuye Oyasin – we are all related – a theoretical and experiential framework for acknowledging the interrelated nature of everything. The program encourages students to evaluate and understand the interconnectedness of care of self (trauma, mental, physical, spiritual health), care of community (kinship and family), care of environment (relationship to land, food, and sustenance), and care of culture (language, narrative, ceremony). The coursework is tied to these established frameworks which understand human interactions with the environment as a large kinship system. By studying American Indian culture, natural resource management, and leadership in an experiential setting, students will come to demonstrate a holistic understanding of their relationship to self, community, environment, and culture. Wachante Hecha Wizipan is based in the Indigenous experience of flourishing with all of our relations in these lands and provides the leadership to combine Indigenous knowledge and environmental science to rebuild a better world.

The Wizipan Leadership and Sustainability program is designed to have students study on site at the Indian University of North America® at the Crazy Horse Memorial®. Students will have the opportunity to earn 15 credits and think critically about what sustainability and leadership in action looks like in their communities. Students will identify critical sustainability issues and resolution strategies for their communities.

SDSU does not request new state resources for the proposed certificate.

3. If you do not have a major in this field, explain how the proposed certificate relates to your university mission and strategic plan, and to the current Board of Regents Strategic Plan 2014-2020.

The Wizipan Leadership and Sustainability Certificate supports the mission of SDSU as provided in SDCL 13-58-1: *Designated as South Dakota's land grant university, South Dakota State University, formerly the state college of agriculture and mechanical arts, shall be under the control of the Board of Regents and shall provide undergraduate and graduate programs of instruction in the liberal arts and sciences and professional education in agriculture, education, engineering, home economics, nursing and pharmacy, and other courses or programs as the Board of Regents may determine.*

The proposed program also supports the goals stated in the South Dakota Board of Regents Strategic Plan 2014-2020:

Goal 1 – Student Success

- Increase total undergraduate degrees awarded.
- Increase the number of degrees awarded to Native American students.

Goal 2 – Academic Quality and Performance

- Grow the number of students participating in experiential learning.

In addition, the certificate supports the Wokini Initiative at SDSU and the goals and strategies of Imagine 2023¹. The Wokini Initiative is SDSU's collaborative and holistic framework to support American Indian student success and Indigenous Nation-building. Ongoing

¹ <https://www.sdstate.edu/imagine-2023-aspirer-discover-achieve>

collaboration between key campus and tribal stakeholders is central to the Wokini framework. The Initiative builds upon SDSU's current tribal partnerships and American Indian Student Center services to 1) enhance cultural programming and support for American Indian students, 2) offer Wokini scholarships for citizens of the nine tribal nations in South Dakota (SD), and 3) enhance research and outreach partnerships with tribes, tribal colleges and other tribal organizations. The Wokini Initiative aligns opportunities for students to pursue degrees that will impact the students, their communities, and their tribes while recognizing the importance of family and culture.²

4. Provide a justification for the certificate program, including the potential benefits to students and potential workforce demand for those who graduate with the credential.

In collaboration with the Indian University of North America®, SDSU will deliver coursework to American Indian students or those with a strong desire to serve the American Indian population. Between 2000 and 2010, the American Indian/Alaska Native population in the United States increased to 5.2 million citizens from 4 million – an increase of 30 percent – and yet of 41,000 elected officials from the county through federal levels, only 0.03% are Native American.³ This program will better prepare individuals to advance their careers in many disciplines including agriculture, natural resource-focused sustainability, engineering, and disciplines supporting human health. The program will help students develop leadership skills that are embedded in Native American culture and practice, but also useful in navigating leadership and advocacy roles both on and off American Indian reservations. Training students in leadership development better positions them to successfully seek and fill position of leadership and influence.

5. Who is the intended audience for the certificate program (including but not limited to the majors/degree programs from which students are expected)?

The Wizipan Leadership and Sustainability Certificate is intended for American Indian students or those with a strong desire to serve the American Indian population from all degree programs. American Indian students are an under-represented minority group at mainstream colleges and universities nationwide, including South Dakota State University. The Wokini Initiative at SDSU is focused on increasing enrollment, retention, and graduation rates of Native American students.

6. Certificate Design

A. Is the certificate designed as a stand-alone education credential option for students not seeking additional credentials (i.e., a bachelor's or master's degree)? If so, what areas of high workforce demand or specialized body of knowledge will be addressed through this certificate?

No

B. Is the certificate a value added credential that supplements a student's major field of study? If so, list the majors/programs from which students would most benefit from adding the certificate.

² <https://www.sdstate.edu/wokini>

³ Castro, C., A. Chino, and L. Harris. 2016. Addressing the strengths, structural barriers and opportunities to getting Native Americans into elected leadership. Advance Native Political Leadership. <https://advancenativepl.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/ANPL-Political-Power-09-22-16.pdf>.

The certificate in Wizipan Leadership and Sustainability will compliment a broad cadre of majors and career paths in health care, engineering, natural resource management, and food systems. By studying American Indian culture, natural resource management, and leadership in an experiential setting, students will come to demonstrate a holistic understanding of their relationship to self, community, environment, and culture.

C. Is the certificate a stackable credential with credits that apply to a higher level credential (i.e., associate, bachelor’s, or master’s degree)? If so, indicate the program(s) to which the certificate stacks and the number of credits from the certificate that can be applied to the program.

No

7. List the courses required for completion of the certificate in the table below (if any new courses are proposed for the certificate, please attach the new course requests to this form).

Prefix	Number	Course Title	Prerequisites for Course	Credit Hours	New (yes, no)
ABS	203	Global Food Systems	None	3	No
AIS	492	Topics*	None	3	No
LEAD	210	Foundations of Leadership	None	3	No
NRM	110	Introduction to Natural Resource Management	None	3	No
NRM	498	Undergraduate Research/Scholarship	None	3	No
				Subtotal	15

*Specific title will change from year to year.

Each of the courses offered are designed to provide students with the knowledge and skills needed to understand how they can effectively assume leadership roles in their communities. Learning about sustainability affords students the opportunities to promote the continued well-being of their communities for both present and future generations. Students will have the opportunity to earn 15 credits while living and learning to think critically about what sustainability and leadership in action can look like in their communities. Students will identify critical sustainability issues and resolution strategies for their communities. Working with a unique curriculum, students immerse in hands-on learning designed to teach them to ask important questions about sustainability, research, and community change.

The delivery method of the Wizipan Leadership and Sustainability program curriculum will be through Transdisciplinary Problem Based Learning (TPBL). This involves aligning all relevant student learning outcomes (SLO) associated with each course and meeting each outcome through engaging with real-world problems. The knowledge learned from the four courses (12 credits) will culminate in an undergraduate research experience (3 credits) and will engage students in problem-based learning by having students apply knowledge learned to address relevant issues.

8. Student Outcome and Demonstration of Individual Achievement.

A. What specific knowledge and competencies, including technology competencies, will all students demonstrate before graduation? The knowledge and competencies should be specific to the program and not routinely expected of all university graduates.

Students completing this certificate will be able to:

- Identify personal leadership style, conflict management, and approaches to team building and strategic planning
- Demonstrate critical thinking and problem-solving skills.
- Identify critical sustainability issues for self, community, environment, and culture.
- Lead sustainable change initiatives.
- Combine Indigenous knowledge and environmental science to rebuild a better world.

B. Complete the table below to list specific learning outcomes – knowledge and competencies – for courses in the proposed program in each row.

Individual Student Outcome	Program Courses that Address the Outcomes				
	ABS 203	AIS 492	LEAD 210	NRM 110	NRM 498
Identify personal leadership style, conflict management, and approaches to team building and strategic planning		X	X		X
Enhance critical thinking and problem-solving skills	X	X	X	X	X
Identify critical sustainability issues for self, community, environment, and culture	X	X	X	X	X
Learn to lead sustainable change initiatives			X		X
Learn to combine Indigenous knowledge and environmental science to rebuild a better world	X	X	X	X	X

9. Delivery Location.

A. Complete the following charts to indicate if the university seeks authorization to deliver the entire program on campus, at any off campus location (e.g., UC Sioux Falls, Capital University Center, Black Hills State University-Rapid City, etc.) or deliver the entire program through distance technology (e.g., as an on-line program)?

	Yes/No	Intended Start Date
On campus	No	

	Yes/No	If Yes, list location(s)	Intended Start Date
Off campus	Yes	Crazy Horse Memorial 12151 Avenue of the Chiefs Crazy Horse, SD 57730	2020-2021 AY

	Yes/No	If Yes, identify delivery methods <i>Delivery methods are defined in AAC Guideline 5.5.</i>	Intended Start Date
Distance Delivery (online/other distance delivery methods)	No		

	Yes/No	<i>If Yes, identify delivery methods</i> <i>Delivery methods are defined in AAC Guideline 5.5.</i>	<i>Intended Start Date</i>
Does another BOR institution already have authorization to offer the program online?	No	If yes, identify institutions:	

B. Complete the following chart to indicate if the university seeks authorization to deliver more than 50% but less than 100% of the certificate through distance learning (e.g., as an on-line program)? *This question responds to HLC definitions for distance delivery.*

	Yes/No	<i>If Yes, identify delivery methods</i>	<i>Intended Start Date</i>
Distance Delivery (online/other distance delivery methods)	No		

40% of the coursework is available online. SDSU offers online sections of ABS 203 and LEAD 210; however, students will complete this program at the Indian University of North America® at Crazy Horse Memorial®.