Native American Students


Although the focus of this article is on outreach, the authors provide a detailed summary of the Native American population at Northern Arizona University in addition to limitations and best practices in delivering library instruction to Native American distance learners, including cultural awareness, cultural sensitivity and individual and group learning styles.

Arizona State University, College of Education. *Center for Indian Education.* http://center-for-indian-education.asu.edu

The Center for Indian Education’s Web site describes several model programs for teaching Native American students, as well as links to sites on the training of Native American teachers. Librarians will find its link to the online *Journal of American Indian Education,* published since 1961, and its list of dissertations on teaching Native American students most helpful. The site also includes links to other Web resources on Native American education and the Wassaja Education listserv, which focuses on Arizona tribal communities.


While this article is geared toward secondary school media specialists, the author provides useful insights into the breadth, variety and diversity of Native American cultures and traditions. Barber specifically addresses the role of the teacher-librarian in working with Native American populations and the importance of understanding learning styles of Native Americans.


A study of the historical development of higher education for Native Americans, this work surveys the Colonial Period to the late 20th Century. It is an excellent resource for those interested in historical perspective and background on Native American education.


Teaching the Native American is an edited book that addresses the issue of culturally relevant education for the Native American student. Gilliland and the other authors explore such topics as the differences between White and Native American societies, and how those differences affect the learning process. The first nine chapters, written exclusively by Gilliland, address such topics as learning styles and the importance of parental involvement. In the second half of the book, guest authors get more specific with chapters on teaching social studies, creative writing, and science to Native students.


Part of the ABC-CLIO "Contemporary Education Issues" reference book series. This book presents a broad history of Native American Education including chapters covering legal and historical American Indian education policies.

Hermes article presents a list of books and Web sites recommended as educational resources for teaching at tribal colleges. The lists contain various books on teaching indigenous languages, such as "How to Keep Your Language Alive" by L. Hinton; teaching tribal writing and literature and pre-medical fields. Examples of some of the websites concern American Indian education including American Indian Higher Education Consortium Virtual Library, and Native American Sites at the Department of Anthropology.


Lindsey, who for three years was a librarian at Red Mesa High School, reports results of a year-long (1999-2000) study examining the development of a curriculum for teaching Internet information literacy to Navajo/Dine high school students. Lessons were constructed through observation of student responses and formal discussions with teachers over the course of the project. The three phases of the study focused on (1) identification of effective content and delivery modalities, (2) implementing the findings of phase 1, and (3) administering a student self-assessment. Lindsey establishes eight principles for teaching Navajo students.


In this article, the author discusses the significance of facilitating strong partnerships with minority students through programs and outreach. She specifically mentions efforts by the University of Illinois, Urbana to make connections with students of African-American, Native American, and Hispanic backgrounds. This requires an active effort on the part of librarians who are employed by universities who work with large minority populations, but could also be useful for librarians at smaller institutions who are looking for ways to support the needs of these underserved groups. NOTE: This article annotation is also listed in the Hispanic/Latino section of this bibliography.


This comprehensive site is a portal to thousands of resources about "indigenous cultures around the World." Under “Resource Center,” there is a list of links to education resources. These links include resources for teaching about Native American culture, as well as resources for teaching Native Americans in the classroom.


This article focuses on a service-based learning model created by students at the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at the University of Texas at Austin in which library students created a virtual library for students and educators at the tribal Northwest Indian College teacher training program. The model drew on indigenous learning styles based on the theories of Native American educator, Dr. Gregory Cajete.
Native American Students


In this article, Sanchez suggests that the learning styles of minority students, namely Hispanic and Native American students have been largely ignored in the classroom. Sanchez offers a summary of learning styles and suggests ways in which these can be used to inform course design and encourage student success. Sanchez also suggests that because educators of minority students often have low expectations, minority students suffer the consequences of low achievement and high dropout rates.


This paper stresses the need for research on Native American education and suggests areas for further study, including the relationship between Native American students and teachers; collaborative efforts between K-12 and higher education; distance learning; culturally appropriate programs; and articulation agreements between schools.


This issue is designated to increase the understanding of American Indian student experiences in higher education. The topics covered include student retention, student and faculty experiences, and student services.


This comprehensive site links to hundreds of Native American organizations and cultural sites. The section Education includes a "Teachers Resources" link which provides a number of resources on classroom practices.