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The Kathryn M. Buder Center for American Indian Studies promote preparation of professionals to assume leadership positions in social services and governmental institutions dedicated to improving the lives of American Indians.

Students join the Brown School community to gain the analytical skills and knowledge to make great change happen. Scholars at the Brown School’s Kathryn M. Buder Center learn to apply these skills to impact the future of Indian Country. We invite you to learn more.

Kathryn M. Buder Center for American Indian Studies

AMERICAN INDIAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION (AISA)

AISA is one of over 20 student-led organizations at the Brown School. The association also acts a support network for American Indian and non-Indian students who are interested in working with Native American people and communities. In addition, they increase awareness and understanding of American Indian culture, history, and politics. AISA hosts many social and cultural events for students, faculty, and staff throughout the year, including visits to Tribal Agencies, Indian arts and crafts demonstrations, and scholars’ dinners.

ANNUAL EVENTS & PROGRAMS

• Washington University in St. Louis Pow Wow
  This student-run event brings together the Washington University community, the St. Louis community, and guests from across Indian Country to celebrate a rich heritage of dance, music, art, and culture.

• Buder Blessing
  This traditional Native blessing wishes graduates well on their journeys.

• Interdisciplinary Collaboration
  The Buder Center collaborates with a number of departments, schools, and research centers at Washington University to conduct research.

• Guest Lectures
  Throughout the year the Buder Scholars network with American Indian/Alaska Native professionals and indigenous leaders.

• Professional Development Series
  Special professional development events offer Buder Scholars the opportunity to expand knowledge and enhance professional performance and career development.

• American Indian Heritage Month
  Buder Scholars host a variety of events during American Indian Heritage Month, which encourages social and cultural understanding.
I was attracted to the Brown School because of the Buder Center and its specialized coursework and research focused on American Indian issues.

– Jaquity Laughlin Duggan, Houma, MSW/JD ’10

Scholarships

The Brown School has one of the largest social work financial aid programs in the country, providing scholarships, loans, and work-study programs.

The Kathryn M. Buder Charitable Foundation offers full scholarships to American Indian/Alaskan Native students who plan to practice social work in a setting serving the Native communities. These scholarships provide tuition, monthly stipends, professional development opportunities, and books for two years of full-time study.

The Buder Center for Social Development provides a Buder Doctoral Fellowship. This scholarship is awarded to outstanding doctoral students from underrepresented interest areas in American Indian social work.

Raulin Martin, Oglala S.D.

“...I chose social work because it has a broad range of possible careers. I chose the Brown School because I was attracted to the student support system that the Kathryn M. Buder Center for American Studies provides...”

– Raulin Martin, Oglala S.D.

Buder Center Scholars

A scholarship from the Buder Foundation ensures more than just academic success. Unique guarantees that students will make a significant impact on the direction of American Indian Country. Scholars prepare to become leaders in social services and governmental agencies. Buder Scholars will enroll in American Indian course work, participate in research, and engage in policy development. This is an excellent opportunity to gain the skills needed to work in tribal law settings and make significant contributions to the health, wellness, and sustained future of Indian Country.

“The support I received as a scholar was extraordinary. I never needed a hand, someone was always there to guide me. Because of my research at the Center, I am able to provide proficient social work with American Indian populations in culturally competent ways.”


PRACTICUM

Buder Scholars have opportunities to complete their education outside of the classroom by first completing a foundation practicum in field placement with St. Louis agencies. Concentration fieldwork requires completion of at least 360 hours (3 credits) in a setting serving Indian Country. This placement offers an immersion in social, tribal, educational, or governmental agencies. The Buder Center has established a network throughout Indian Country to help scholars secure appropriate practice. Many of these skills and agencies work within their own network to establish a local site of interest, including children, youth, and family, community and economic development, research, government, health, and mental health.

St. Louis

Washington University is an independent university known internationally for excellence in teaching and research. The city draws students and scholars from all 50 states and more than 120 nations. Washington University is consistently ranked among the nation’s best in higher education programs and offers abundant student resources.

St. Louis is the Gateway to the West and has a rich history of Native populations, and became known as a Native American “City of St. Louis” in 1848. The city hosts a diverse group of cultures, a vibrant music and arts scene, as well as an international community.

“Another great thing about being at the Brown School is the opportunity to work with Buder Center Scholars. It is important for these students to apply their learning and foreground to issues that impact American Indian/Alaskan Native populations, and become leaders in the community.”

– David Patterson, Silver Wolf PhD, Assistant Professor, Brown School

Washington University in St. Louis

The Brown School offers a top-ranked Master of Social Work program with flexible coursework that can be tailored to meet student’s personal and professional interests. The Brown School also offers a unique Master of Public Health degree and dual program degrees in architecture, business, divinity, and law. 85 percent of faculty students, and graduates works throughout St. Louis, across the country, and worldwide to apply new knowledge and use the latest available evidence to impact policy, practice, and service delivery.

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“I was attracted to the Brown School because of the Buder Center and its specialized course work and research focused on American Indian issues.” – Jessica Laughlin Duggan, Houma, MSW/JD ’10

“I chose social work because it has a broad range of possible careers. I chose the Brown School because I was attracted to the student support system that the Kathryn M. Buder Center for American Indian Studies provides.” – Raulin Martin, Lakota Sioux, MSW ’12

“I am very interested in tribal policy. I was attracted to the Brown School because it offers a top-ranked Master of Social Work program with a flexible curriculum that can be tailored to suit each student’s personal and professional interests. The Brown School also offers a unique transdisciplinary Master of Public Health degree and dual-degree programs in architecture, business, divinity, and law. Our campus is made up of many neighborhoods connected with a light rail system, combining a college town feel with the resources of a major metropolitan area. This city leads a low cost of living, many free attractions, a vibrant music and arts scene, and a community with Native American heritage.” – David Patterson, Silver Wolf PhD, Assistant Professor, Brown School

Scholarships
The Brown School has one of the largest social work financial aid programs in the country including scholarships, loans, and work-study programs. The Kathryn M. Buder Charitable Foundation offers full scholarships to American Indian/Alaska Native students who plan to pursue social work in a setting serving Indian Country. These scholarships provide tuition, monthly stipends, professional development opportunities, and books for two years of full-time study. The Brown School’s Center for Social Development provides a Buder Doctoral Fellowship. This Fellowship is awarded to outstanding doctoral students who demonstrate significant improvement in their research or work in tribal, social, educational, or governmental agencies. The Buder Center has established a network throughout Indian Country to help scholars secure appropriate practice placements and to connect their work to other networks within their own network to establish a stable network of internships, including children, youth, and families, community and economic development, research, policy, government, health, and mental health.

The Kathryn M. Buder Center offers the Buder Doctoral Fellowship, a fellowship with significant financial support to students who plan to pursue doctoral degree work in social work. This fellowship is awarded to outstanding doctoral students who demonstrate significant improvement in their research or work in tribal, social, educational, or governmental agencies. The Buder Center has established a network throughout Indian Country to help scholars secure appropriate practice placements and to connect their work to other networks within their own network to establish a stable network of internships, including children, youth, and families, community and economic development, research, policy, government, health, and mental health.

Buder Center Scholars
A scholarship from the Buder Foundation ensures more than just academic success. Scholarships help students make a significant impact on the direction of their career. Scholars prepare to become leaders in social services and governmental agencies. Buder Scholars will enroll in American Indian course work, participate in research, and engage in policy development. This is an excellent opportunity to give the skills needed to work in tribal, social, educational, or governmental agencies. The Buder Center has established a network throughout Indian Country to help scholars secure appropriate practice placements and to connect their work to other networks within their own network to establish a stable network of internships, including children, youth, and families, community and economic development, research, policy, government, health, and mental health.

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Scholarships

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The Buder Center, Center for Social Development provides a Buder Doctoral Fellowship. This Scholarship is awarded to outstanding doctoral candidates in support of doctoral dissertation research focused on American Indian issues.

Buder Scholars have vast opportunities for academic success. They are guaranteed that students will make a significant impact on the direction of American Indian Country. Scholars prepare to become leaders in social services and governmental agencies. Buder Scholars will graduate with a strong understanding of social work in the context of Indian Country. This includes cultural background and the role of social work in the context of Indian Country. This includes cultural background and the role of social work in the context of Indian Country.

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Scholarships

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The Buder Center’s Center for Social Development provides a Buder Doctoral Fellowship. This fellowship is awarded to an outstanding doctoral student who demonstrates significant promise for American Indian Studies research and a commitment to an academic career that will contribute to social work practice in American Indian communities. The Buder Center Scholars have vast opportunities to expand their education outside of classroom and research focused in American Indian studies.

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Buder Center Scholars

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– Raulin Martin, Lakota Sioux, MSW ’12

Washington University in St. Louis

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St. Louis

Washington University in St. Louis, located on the campus of the Saint Louis University, is a college town feel with the resources of a major metropolitan area. This city boasts a low cost of living, many free attractions, and a community with Native American heritage. The Saint Louis Zoo, the Saint Louis Science Center, the Saint Louis Art Museum, and the Missouri History Museum are just a few of the many neighborhoods connected with a rich cultural history combining a college town feel with the remains of historic metropolitan areas. This city leads a fast life of living, many attractions, a consistently ranked among the nation’s best higher education programs and a community with Native American heritage.

“The support I received as a Buder Scholar was extraordinary. If even needs a hand, someone was always there to guide me. Because of my research at the Center, I am able to provide professional and community services with American Indian populations in culturally competent ways.”


Brown School

The Brown School offers a top-ranked Master of Social Work program with flexible curricula that can be tailored to web-based, hybrid, and on-campus enrollments. The Brown School also offers a unique interdisciplinary Master of Public Health degree and dual degree programs in architecture, business, divinity, and law. Our summer, fall, and spring semesters attract faculty and students from throughout the American Indian community, across the country, and worldwide to apply new knowledge and use the best available evidence to impact policy, practice, and service delivery.

“Important for these students is the opportunity to work with Buder Center Scholars. It is important for these students to apply these learnings and employment opportunities to impact their impact American Indian Native populations, and become leaders in other communities.”

“Studying at the Brown School was the opportunity to impact policy, practice, and service delivery.”

– Elvinung Waya, (Adelwunegv Waya) – Cherokee, PhD, Assistant Professor, Brown School

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Native Practicum Sites

PRACTICUM

Ruder Scholars have opportunities to establish education outside of the classroom by first completing a foundation practicum in field placement with St. Louis agencies. Concentration fieldwork requires completion of at least 108 hours (3 credits) in a setting serving Indian Country. This placement can be with a reservation or with tribal, social, educational, or governmental agencies. The Buder Center has established a network throughout Indian Country to help scholars secure appropriate practice opportunities in social work-related fields within their own network or establish a site in their area of interest, including children, youth, and family, community and economic development, education, psychology, government, health, and mental health.

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– Jessica Black, Gwich’in Athabascan, 2012 PhD Fellow

AMERICAN INDIAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION (AISA)

AISA is one of over 20 student-led organizations at the Brown School. The association works to support students who are interested in working with Native American people and communities. In addition, they increase awareness and understanding of American Indian cultures, history, and policies. AISA hosts many social and cultural events for students, faculty, and staff throughout the year, including visits to Tribal Agencies, Indian arts, grief dynamics, and scholars’ dinners.

Annual Events & Programs

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  This student-run event brings together the Washington University community, the St. Louis community, and guests from across Indian Country to celebrate a rich heritage of dance, music, art, and culture.

- Buder Blessing
  This traditional Native blessing wishes graduates well on their journeys.

- Interdisciplinary Collaboration
  The Buder Center collaborates with a number of departments, schools, and research centers at Washington University to conduct research.

- Guest Lectures
  Throughout the year the Buder Scholars network with American Indian/Alaska Native professionals in various fields.

- Professional Development Series
  Special professional development forums offer Buder Scholars opportunities to expand knowledge and enhance professional performance and career development.

- American Indian Heritage Month
  AISA hosts a variety of events during American Indian Heritage Month, which commemorates vital cultural contributions of the past and celebrates hope for the future.

Students join the Brown School community to gain the analytical skills and knowledge to make great change happen. Scholars at the Brown School’s Kathryn M. Buder Center learn to apply these skills to impact the future of Indian Country. We invite you to learn more.
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CONTACT INFORMATION:
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American Indian Student Association (AISA)

AISA is one of over 20 student-led organizations at the Brown School. The association acts as a holistic support system for American Indian and non-Indian students who are interested in working with Native American people and communities. In addition, they increase awareness and understanding of American Indian nations, culture, history, and politics. AISA hosts many social and cultural events for students, faculty, and staff throughout the year, including visits to Tribal Agencies, Native arts and crafts demonstrations, and scholars’ dinners.

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George Warren Brown School of Social Work

Washington University in St. Louis

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