

# UNM Diné Language Teacher Institute

## Diné Language Teacher Cohort Program



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
NEW MEXICO.

### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Diné Language Teacher Institute (DLTI) cohort program is to support the unique needs of Diné communities to revitalize and sustain their languages by increasing the number of Diné language teachers. UNM's College of Education and Human Sciences, Native American Studies, and the Navajo Language Program will offer 18-hours of UNM coursework with a specific focus on using language immersion methodologies for Diné language revitalization in community and school based settings.

By participating in this program, participants will complete 18 credit hours of required course work. These courses will specifically address Diné language immersion teaching that draws upon the tribal strengths of Diné communities that utilize Diné-centered community based (k'é) approaches to language teaching methodologies, pedagogies, and research. The 18-hour course work includes the following 6 courses.

- ❖ Native American Studies: (3 credit hours)  
NATV 462: Native American Oral Tradition and Language Reclamation (graduate or undergraduate credit) OR NATV 2315: Indigenous Language Revitalization and Community renewal (undergraduate credit).
- ❖ Navajo Language/Linguistics : (6 credit hours)  
NVJO 315 – Advanced Navajo (Navajo for Speakers); NVJO 401 – Navajo Linguistics
- ❖ Language, Literacy, and Sociocultural Studies (LLSS) (9 credit hours, graduate or undergraduate credit) - LLSS 449 –Teaching the Native Language to Native Speakers (Diné Community Language Advocacy and Engagement); LLSS 493/593: Topics: Teaching Native Language in Immersion Settings (Diné Language Immersion focus); LLSS 493/593 - Topics: Language Curriculum Development for Heritage Languages (Diné language focus).

Participants will be encouraged to apply to a BA or MA degree program in Native American Studies, Linguistics, with a minor in Navajo Language or Language, Literacy and Socio-cultural Studies after the first semester. For information about program requirements, refer to each department and program's websites.

- ❖ LLSS American Indian Education program: <https://coehs.unm.edu/departments-programs/llss/language-literacy-sociocultural-studies/index.html>
- ❖ Native American Studies: <https://nas.unm.edu/>
- ❖ Linguistics: <https://ling.unm.edu/>; Navajo Language Program: <https://ling.unm.edu/navajo-language-program>

# Application Requirements and Overview

FIRST YEAR COHORT MEMBERS – **Due to COVID 19 restrictions, all courses will be offered remotely as Online Synchronous classes until further notice.** For Fall 2020, NATV 462 will be offered on Mondays from 4:30 – 5:45 pm by Zoom with an online component on UNM Learn. In Spring 2021, two courses (LLSS 449 AND NVJO 401) will be offered. In Summer 2021, LLSS 493/593 - Teaching Native Language in Immersion Settings will be offered concurrently with the Summer 2021 Diné Language Immersion Institute/Camp. The final classes (LLSS 493/593 - Language Curriculum Development for Heritage Languages and NVJO 315- Advanced Navajo) for 1<sup>st</sup> year cohort members will be offered in Fall 2021.

How to Apply: Please inform one of the cohort coordinators about your interest in the cohort. Afterwards, you will need to apply online using the following website link provided. UNM Admissions: <http://www.unm.edu/apply/> When you are at the main page, click on **Albuquerque Campus Applications** and indicate that you want to register as **Non-degree** status. You will be asked to create an account. After you have created your account, you will be provided a Login ID and password to apply. Once you have been admitted, you will need to register for the NATV 462 course.

## DLTI COHORT REQUIREMENTS

- ❖ Must be a speaker of the Diné language.
- ❖ An ability to work collaboratively in a community setting and complete 18 hours of college level course work.
- ❖ Experience as an educator and/or paraprofessional (in schools, college/university, at a state/federal level, with tribes or in a community context).
- ❖ Preferred but not required (A.A., B.A., or M.A. degree from an accredited college/university).
- ❖ Commit to complete cohort program successfully.
- ❖ Access to computer and WiFi technology is required.

## BENEFITS OF DLTI COHORT

- ❖ Fully paid UNM tuition and fees.
- ❖ All books and resources for the coursework are provided.
- ❖ All school supplies and technology are provided as needed.
- ❖ Stipends for organizing after school and monthly community language events.
- ❖ Collaborate with Diné language immersion experts, cultural practitioners, and faculty members.
- ❖ Opportunity to apply for 520 Alternative Native Language and Culture Certification to serve Diné language communities after completion of course work.
- ❖ Opportunity to mentor other cohort members in subsequent years.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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