The Program

The Master of Arts (M.A.) in Indigenous Language and Culture Education is designed for indigenous language and culture education practitioners such as teachers, administrators, culture resource specialists, etc. The setting at Ka Haka ‘Ula O Ke‘elikōlani College with its Kahuawaiola Indigenous Teacher Education Program, curriculum development center, consortium with the ‘Aha Pūnana Leo, and P-12 laboratory school, baccalaureate, and graduate Hawaiian medium education programs provides unique resources for understanding indigenous language and culture education.

The M.A. in Indigenous Language and Culture Education offers only the non-thesis Practicing Track (Plan B, Track 2) at present, but plans to offer a Monitoring Track (Track 1) and a thesis program (Plan A) option in the future. The Practicing Track requires students to simultaneously pursue the Kahuawaiola Indigenous Teacher Education Certificate which leads to licensing as a teacher at the preschool through grade 12 levels. Actual use of an indigenous language in the majority of Practicing Track courses provides students with the tools to carry out indigenous language and culture education at a high level in their language of focus.

Students accepted into the master’s program must have met requirements for study and fluency in their indigenous language and culture of focus which will be their point of reference throughout the program. The level of fluency required in the language of focus will depend on the status of that language, in terms of relative health and endangerment, and will be supplemented by courses in Indigenous Studies, Anthropology, Linguistics, Languages (including English), Folklore, and other related areas where appropriate.

For more information, contact:

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Or visit our website at:
www.olelo.hawaii.edu/khuok/ma_naauao.php
ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

1. Bachelor’s degree from an accredited college or university with a minimum 3.0 grade point average in an approved field of study, e.g., Indigenous Studies, Ethnic Studies, Education, Languages (including English), etc;

2. Three letters of recommendation at least one of which must focus on background in a particular language and culture of an indigenous people and service to that indigenous community;

3. 30 credits of study in a chosen indigenous language of focus or a program approved combination of that indigenous language and a metropolitan language, Anthropology or Linguistics with no grade lower than a “B” and a 3.5 average;

4. 9 credits of study in the culture of a chosen language of focus or a program approved combination of indigenous culture and related social science courses such as Anthropology and Sociology with no grade lower than a “B” and a 3.5 average;

5. Teaching experience either paid or volunteer;

6. Complete taped interview either in person or by telephone;

7. Passing scores on the GRE as determined by the College;

8. Passing scores on the TOEFL as determined by the College or other evidence of English fluency where appropriate; and

9. For those students pursuing Plan B, prior completion of the Kahuawaiola Indigenous Teacher Education Program or current enrollment in that program. (Note that enrollment in the Kahuawaiola program requires that the student has previously passed HAW 490 Base-level Fluency for Hawaiian Medium Education.)

Note: Further information on the details of fulfilling admission requirements are available from the Program. Such details take into account the status of different endangered languages relative to community use, revitalization status, and stage of academic study. The College may, under certain circumstances, provisionally accept students to the Program.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

PLAN B (Non-thesis) - 31 semester credits
Practicing Indigenous Education Track
(Note also the additional entrance requirement 9)

1. 3 credits in research methods: KED 630.

2. 10 credits in group specific indigenous language medium education: KED 620, 622, 623, 624.

3. 3 credits in Hawaiian language arts: KED 621.

4. 6 credits in field study: KED 642, 644.

5. 6 credits in appropriate 600 level education, multilingual societies or linguistics electives taken from any two of the following: HAW 632; KED 660, 661, 662.

6. 3 credits in applied research: KED 693.

7. Completion of the Kahuawaiola Indigenous Teacher Education Program: KED 641, 643; and passing scores on required PRAXIS examinations.