

Law 631P (1 Credit Hour)
Indigenous Data Sovereignty
James E. Rogers College of Law
The University of Arizona
Monday-Wednesday, January 8-10, 2024
1:30pm-5:50pm

FACULTY

Desi Small-Rodriguez, PhD is a citizen of the Northern Cheyenne Nation and Chicana. She is an assistant professor of Sociology and American Indian Studies at the University of California, Los Angeles. As a social demographer, her research explores the intersection of race, indigeneity, data, and inequality. Her teaching and advocacy center on disrupting settler colonial systems and rebuilding data for strong Indigenous futures. She has partnered with Indigenous communities in the U.S. and internationally as a researcher and data advocate for more than fifteen years. She directs the Data Warriors Lab, an Indigenous social science laboratory and is the Co-Founder of the U.S. Indigenous Data Sovereignty Network.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The University of Arizona and Tucson are on Tohono O’odham Nation homelands and the lands of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe. These lands were also sites of trade, gathering, and healing for numerous other Indigenous Peoples. Aligning with the University’s core value of a diverse and inclusive community, it is an institutional responsibility to recognize and acknowledge the Indigenous Peoples, cultures, and history that make up the Wildcat community. At the institutional level, it is important to be proactive in broadening awareness throughout campus to ensure Indigenous students feel represented and valued.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The demand for data and use of data is increasing worldwide. As Indigenous nations and communities engage in economic, social, and cultural development on a rapid scale, they too require data for decision-making. Additionally, tribes seek methods to honor and protect their cultural and proprietary information. This course will examine the role of data as an exercise of sovereignty in Indigenous nation governance and self-determination. It will dually explore data collected internally by Indigenous nations and communities, and information collected by external sources. This course seeks to answer broad questions such as: “How can data facilitate nation building?”; “How can Indigenous nations influence the better collection and stewardship of data

about their people and resources by third parties?"; "What are the opportunities and challenges inherent in data building and data governance?" To answer these questions, the course draws from best practices across Indigenous communities in the US and internationally. With a focus on both scholarship and tangible data practice, students will receive hands-on training facilitating the pragmatic use of data to build strong evidence bases for Indigenous nations and communities.

At the completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Understand what terms such as "Indigenous data sovereignty" and "Indigenous data governance" mean, and recognize the implications of such terms—both for Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples, communities, nations, and institutions;
2. Describe how Indigenous data sovereignty and data governance link to nation rebuilding; and
3. Explain how data that Indigenous peoples and nations collect, analyze, and use may be different from mainstream data and the importance of leveraging data to support Indigenous aspirations for collective well-being.

COURSE MATERIALS

Available on D2L

- Anderson & Christen. (2019). Decolonizing Attribution: Traditions of Exclusion. *Journal of Radical Librarianship* 5:113-52.
- Carroll, Stephanie Russo, Desi Rodriguez-Lonebear, Andrew Martinez. (2019). Indigenous Data Governance: Strategies from United States Native Nations. *Data Science Journal* 18(1). DOI: 10.5334/dsj-2019-031
- Carroll, Stephanie Russo, Desi Rodriguez-Lonebear, Randall Akee, Annita Lucchesi and Jennifer Rai Richards "Indigenous Data in the Covid-19 Pandemic: Straddling Erasure, Terrorism, and Sovereignty." Items, Social Science Research Council Website, June 11, 2020 (with). <https://items.ssrc.org/covid-19-and-the-social-sciences/disaster-studies/indigenous-data-in-the-covid-19-pandemic-straddling-erasure-terrorism-and-sovereignty/>
- Carroll, Stephanie Russo, Ibrahim Garba, Oscar L. Figueroa-Rodríguez, Jarita Holbrook, Ray Lovett, Simeon Materrechera, Mark Parsons, Kay Raseroka, Desi Rodriguez-Lonebear**, Robyn K. Rowe**, Rodrigo Sara, Jennifer D. Walker, Jane Anderson, Maui Hudson (2020). "The CARE Principles for Indigenous Data Governance." *Data Science Journal*, 19: 43, pp. 1–12. Doi: <https://doi.org/10.5334/dsj-2020-043>
<https://doi.org/10.5334/dsj-2020-043%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank>
- Chung & Chung. (2019). Indigenous Data Sovereignty in the Mekong Region. 2019 World Bank Conference on Land and Poverty, March 25-29, 2019, Washington, DC.
- Hudson, M., Anderson, T., Dewes, T.K., Temara, P., Whaanga, H., & Roa, T. (2018.) He Matapihi ki te Mana Raraunga: Conceptualising Big Data through a Maori lens. In H. Whaanga, T. T. Keegan, T. T., & M. Apperley (Eds.) (2018), He Whare Hangarau Māori -

Language, culture & technology[Ebook] pp. 62 - 71. Hamilton: Te PuaWānanga ki te Ao, Te Whare Wānanga o Waikato.

- Kukutai & Taylor (2016), *Indigenous Data Sovereignty*, Australia National University Press: Canberra. <http://press.anu.edu.au/node/2140>
- Kukutai & Walter (2015). Recognition and indigenizing official statistics: Reflections from Aotearoa New Zealand and Australia. *Statistical Journal of the IAOS* 31:317-26. DOI: 10.3233/SJI-150896.
- Maïam nayri Wingara and Australian Indigenous Governance Institute. (2018). Communique: Indigenous Data Sovereignty. Canberra, ACT: Maïam nayri Wingara and Australian Indigenous Governance Institute.
- NCAI Policy Research Center. (2018). The State of Tribal Data Capacity in Indian Country: Key Findings from the Survey of Tribal Data Practices. Washington, D.C.: National Congress of American Indians.
- NCAI. (2018). Resolution KAN-18-011: Support of US Indigenous Data Sovereignty and Inclusion of Tribes in the Development of Tribal Data Governance Principles. Kansas City: National Congress of American Indians.
- Rainie, Schultz, Briggs, Riggs, & Palmanteer-Holder. (2017). Data as a Strategic Resource: Self-determination, Governance, and the Data Challenge for Indigenous Nations in the United States. *The International Indigenous Policy Journal* 8(2). DOI: 10.18584/iipj.2017.8.2.1
- Rainie, Rodriguez-Lonebear, & Martinez (2017a). Policy Brief: Data Governance for Native Nation Rebuilding. (Version 2). Tucson: Native Nations Institute. http://nni.arizona.edu/application/files/8415/0007/5708/Policy_Brief_Data_Governance_for_Native_Nation_Rebuilding_Version_2.pdf
- Rainie, Rodriguez-Lonebear, & Martinez (2017b). Policy Brief: Indigenous Data Sovereignty. Tucson: Native Nations Institute, University of Arizona.
- Te Mana Raraunga. (2018). Brief #1: Principles of Maori Data Sovereignty. Hamilton, NZ: Te Mana Raraunga Maori Data Sovereignty Network.
- Tsosie, R.A. (2019). Tribal data governance and informational privacy: Constructing 'Indigenous data sovereignty'. *Montana Law Review*, 229, Arizona Legal Studies Discussion Paper No. 19-19.
- Walter & Andersen (2013), *Indigenous Statistics: A Quantitative Research Methodology*, Left Coast Press/Routledge: London.
- Walter, Kukutai, Carroll, & Rodriguez-Lonebear (2020). *Indigenous Data Sovereignty and Policy*. Routledge: London.

COURSE AGENDA

Day 1

Indigenous Data Sovereignty Key Concepts and Understandings

- Introduction and Course Overview
- Ice Breaker and Introductions (1 hour)
- Lecture 1 Indigenous+Data+Sovereignty Key Concepts (45 mins)
- Small Group Discussion (30 mins)
- Closing Q&A

Assignment: One-page reflection on the day's activities and content.

Day 2

Indigenous Data Sovereignty Key Concepts and Understandings Continued

- Syllabus and Assignment Overview (15 minutes)
- Circle: Process Day 1 Reflection and Sharing (15 minutes)
- Lecture 1 Continued: Indigenous+Data+Sovereignty Key Concepts (45 mins)
- Break (15 mins)
- Small Group Discussion (30 mins)
- Lecture 2: Data Dependency and Reclaiming Data (45 mins)
- Small Group Discussion (30 mins)
- Break (15 mins)
- Lecture 3: Indigenous Data Sovereignty in the United States
- Small Group Discussion (30 mins)
- Closing Q&A

Assignment: One-page reflection on the day's activities and content.

Day 3

Indigenous Data Sovereignty in Action

- Circle: Process Day 2 Reflection and Sharing (15 minutes)
- Lecture 4: Indigenous Data Sovereignty Globally (45 mins)
- Break (15 mins)
- Lecture 5: Indigenous Data Sovereignty into Action (45 mins)
- Break (15 mins)
- Participatory Activity (2 hours)
- Group Recap
- Closing Q&A

Assignment: One-page reflection on the day's activities and content.

COURSE PORTFOLIO

Due March 2024 or to be negotiated with Professor Desi

1. Day 1 Reflection (one page)
2. Day 2 Reflection (one page)
3. Day 3 Reflection (one page)
4. Research Proposal or Policy Memo (three pages, not including references): Taking into consideration Indigenous Data Sovereignty and principles for the governance of Indigenous data, choose to write either a research proposal or policy memo that builds and strengthens Indigenous data policies and/or practices at a tribe, other government, or institution.