



AIR SR. SCHEDULE: SPRING 2011

AIR Programs

Special Points of Interest:

- *Research into current Native American Issues affecting our communities*
- *Academic support: through tutoring and academic workshops*
- *Community Partnered : University of San Diego, San Diego State University and University of California San Diego*

WELCOME TO THE AIR SR PROGRAM

The AIR Program welcomes you to the 18th year of our project that serves our San Diego County region. Our program is founded on the ideals of academic success for our Native American participants through a philosophy of learning and teaching through culture. There are four main components to our program, which we use to service our participants.

Part 1: *Academic workshops*; that help our students understand processes of higher education. They include: working with teachers and professors, study skills, what degrees are, applications, and much more.

Part 2: *Topical Research Assignment*, Here we research an American Indian issues through assistance of our mentor staff. The ideal is to give research methodology on an academic level that will benefit the student in their current and future academic settings. Additionally, our topic is geared to induce interest in our Native American cultures and promote greater self confidence for our student participants.

Part 3: *Academic Support* where we offer tutoring and other academic needs for the student.

Part 4: *Familiarity with higher education*; the ideal is to show and acclimate the students to the higher educational setting. We hope to give familiarity with the campuses and overcome the initial fears of the university environment.

These are the main ideals that we attempt to use in promoting academics and higher education (but is not limited to these areas). Friendships and enjoying ourselves in a nurturing environment is also part of our goal. Overall, many of our students have gone on to pursue higher education and we hope that this semester you enjoy the program as those in the past have.



Semester Topics: Revitalization of our Languages

Language is a foundation of our communities and of our cultures. Language forms the root of our communications in telling stories, of our creation, and of our family heritage. Therefore, the loss of language has hurt our Tribal nations and caused great dysfunction within our communities if not the greater destruction of our Tribes.

Many of our native language expressions do not translate well into other languages as well as many languages do not translate well into our Native languages. As an example, English, is a very finite language with exact ending and starting statements. When



asked on how to say goodbye or hello (which are very finite) many of our native languages use expressions that involve customary dialogue in greetings and customary expressions when stating goodbye that generally mean they will see a person at a later time and not a definite goodbye (as stated in English terms). Such small changes in language may have dramatic affect on our cultures if forced to adopt a foreign language. Therefore when forced to speak only English and negate our own language we see tremendous change in the way we practice our own cultures.

During this semester long project we will research and hear from our guest speakers on language and it's relevance to our Native communities. Research will include how many of our languages share similar traits, how, through assimilation policies instituted by the US nearly destroyed many Native languages and Native Culture, finally, we will look at what Tribes and individuals who are bringing their languages and cultures back from nearly total loss.

We hope you enjoy this semester and see you soon!

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Meeting 1 (UCSD): 2-28-11
Location: UCSD **Room:** TBA **Time:** 4:30 - 6:30 pm

Welcome to the AIR Program and UCSD

AIR Program Start

The Basics: Schedule/Rules/introductions.

Workshop 1: How I got to College

This workshop will discuss how our mentors figured out why they went to college. Not everyone has the same ideal in pursuing higher education. Perhaps listening in on our mentors decisions to pursue higher education may help you in your decision to pursue a career path (and one that may include higher education)

Pre-Eval: Student input on AIR Program

College campus interactive tour



Meeting 2 (SDSU): 3-7-11
Location: SDSU **Room:** TBA **Time:** 4:30 - 6:30 pm

Introductions

Workshop 2: What's a Degree and a university

Do you know what a BA or BS degree is? Do you know the difference between a community college and a university or what a Ph.D. or a J.D.? Many don't know and this is part of the rules of the game you must know when pursuing higher education.

Research: Language and Culture: The Loss and Revitalization of Native Culture
This semester we will examine how language has played a vital role in our Native cultures. We will have a semester long project on the theory on how language sets the trends within our cultures, why Native Languages were forbidden in the boarding school era causing greater losses within our Native Culture, and the slow revitalization of Native Languages.



Meeting 3 (SDSU): 3-14-11
Location: SDSU **Room:** TBA **Time:** 4:30 - 6:30 pm



Introductions

Workshop 3: A-G requirements and SAT

Many of our students do not understand that there are requirements to enter a university. This workshop explains how to find out about these requirements, who to talk to at school, and how to go about doing this. Finally, what is new with the SAT, is it really just a big test?

Library: Boarding Schools and Assimilation

In this exercise we will ask our students to research the Boarding school era and why James Pratt developed the ideal of assimilation. Questions include the trauma that may or may not have been developed by the non-use of our Native Languages during the many years of the Boarding school era.



Thank you, to the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians for their support, truly, your support for our Native Communities and our AIR Program has made a great difference, thank you!

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Meeting 4 (USD): 3-21-11
Location: USD Room: UC-103 Time: 4:30 - 6:30 pm

Introductions**Workshop 4: Financial Aid**

Money, that's what I want! More and more universities and colleges are raising tuition. If you do not prepare you may not be able to afford school. Our mentors will briefly discuss monetary needs and how to apply for FASFA.

Speaker: What occurred at our Boarding Schools

A speaker will come to our program and give a real life account of the boarding school process and what they were allowed to speak and do. Further, she will also discuss boarding schools as an instructor at Sherman.



Meeting 5 (UCSD): 3-28-11
Location: UCSD Room: TBA Time: 4:30 - 6:30 pm

InIntroductions**Workshop 5: The Community College route**

Community College is an institution of higher education. But going there is a much tougher route. Many times the students drop out and so goes the end of their pursuit of a specified career path (including getting a degree). This workshop is developed to understand the pitfalls of the community college route. By knowing the pitfalls maybe you can avoid and understand why it is a tougher route.

Library: Revitalization Movement

Here we will research groups that have taken steps to revitalize their culture through Language programs. This will be a general topic in which we read how these approaches have had great impact on their tribal communities.

Meeting 6 (UCSD): 4-11-11
Location: UCSD Room: TBA Time: 4:30 - 6:30 pm

Introductions**Workshop 6: Networking and College Life**

Attending an institution of Higher education has many important areas in which you need to succeed (Financial, grades, administrative functions (like registering on time, class schedule, and taking the right courses)). But one overlooked area is social life. Socialization in college is important. Being isolated and alone on campus is not a good thing as it leads to a route of failure. Not speaking to your professor is also to your detriment. So, here, you get to hear how some students cope with the social setting and how students are reaching out to others (including their professors).

Speaker: Revitalization of Culture through language

Speaker will talk about the revitalization of culture through the use of language within creation stories/songs and the effectiveness of their approach among their tribe.



**SAN DIEGO STATE
UNIVERSITY**

Special thanks to the University of San Diego, Dept. of Ethnic Studies, San Diego State University, Department of American Indian Studies, and the University of California, San Diego, for all the support and being integral partners to the AIR Programs in serving our Native Youth. Our combined efforts are producing more Native College bound students than ever before!



PALOMAR COLLEGE
Learning for Success



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www.airprograms.org



Meeting 7 (USD): 4-18-11
Location: USD Room: UC-103 Time: 4:30 - 6:30 pm

Pulling it together and Presentations

Here we will finalize our research and pull together a coherent presentation on our findings. Then we will film our presentation (our final work product).

Meeting 8 (USD): 5-2-11
Location: USD Room: UC-Forum-C Time: 4:30 - 6:30 pm

Introductions

Workshop 7: Ethics

There are many problems within Indian Country. In many instances it is our own community that we act to the disadvantage of our own tribal peoples. What is missing? In part, it is ethics where non-native ideals of greed, condemnation, and hatred affect all of us. How do we combat this, believing in what is right and holding ourselves to a greater standard of integrity. This workshop will discuss some approaches in life to take on the road to greater ethics.

Presentation viewing

Awards



Thank you to the Rincon Band of Luiseno Indians for all your support for this years programs. Truly, you are making a difference in our community.



Thank you to the San Pasqual Band of Mission Indians for your support throughout these many years.

