

The Native American Project focuses on the history, culture, and language of Native Americans, especially the Western Cherokees who reside in eastern Oklahoma in the Cherokee Nation. Each semester students take a field trip guided by Cherokees J. P. Johnson, D'Etta Stephens-Mason, and Joseph Reneau - the latter two are former NWACC students who reconnected with their Cherokee roots through the project.

In addition to learning about Cherokee history, culture, and language, the students sponsor a supply drive and fundraiser for the Cherokee Immersion School, located in Park Hill, Oklahoma. The Cherokee Immersion School was founded in 2000 and offers the entire curriculum in the Cherokee language. Approximately 3,000 native Cherokee speakers exist in America today. The immersion school hopes to increase the number of Cherokee language speakers to preserve this ancient language.

Students at NWACC who participate in this project are not only learning about Cherokee history, culture and language, but through the supply drive and fundraiser, are making their contribution to the preservation of the Cherokee language.

