The College of Indigenous Studies
The College of Indigenous Studies of NDHU has six major studying tracks for its prospective students, including the Indigenous Peoples of the World, Ethnic Languages, Ethnic Relations, Introduction to Linguistics, Social Work and Community Development, and Journalism.
The faculty members are mainly trained from US, UK, France, Japan, and Taiwan, whose researches concern contemporary indigenous issues, including Language, Media, Environment, Art, Music, Education, History, Law, and Technology. Students are encouraged to explore cultural diversity from local events and practices. They can also enjoy academic resources and opportunities of practicum in various institutes for the indigenous affairs. The field of Indigenous studies, both of Taiwan and the world, expands in the courses and training for our students. As international students in NDHU, the College of Indigenous Studies provides most exciting and adventurous moments for your study in Hualien, and for your future.
For centuries, Taiwan's aboriginal peoples experienced economic competition and military conflict with a series of colonizing peoples. Centralized government policies designed to foster language shift and cultural assimilation, as well as continued contact with the colonizers through trade, intermarriage and other dispassionate intercultural processes, have resulted in varying degrees of language death and loss of original cultural identity. Currently the recognized ethnic groups are Ami, Atayal, Bunun, Kavalan, Paiwan, Puyuma, Rukai, Saisiyat, Tao, Thao, Tsou, Truku, Sakizaya, and Sediq. And still there are unrecognized plain aboriginal groups facing the challenges of their languages and cultures.

Although the ethnic aborigines take only 2% of total population in Taiwan, we have 50% of our students coming from different ethnic indigenous groups. The College of Indigenous Studies at NDHU provides resourceful environment and opportunities for students to be immersed in this great diversity of culture and ethnicity.