The purpose of this response is to address concerns raised in the off-site review. First, we address the 10.58.501 General Requirements. Second, we address 10.58.508 Elementary Education. Our response to the General Requirements is meant to provide context for all of our programs with reference to a web-based resource we have developed to highlight our extensive activities relative to Indian Education for All. In alignment with our Conceptual Framework which emphasizes both respect for diversity and the integration of ideas, we made the conscious decision to integrate diversity content throughout our courses. It is now clear that this comes with the risk of obscuring our systematic focus and commitment to teaching candidates about the historical and contemporary contexts of Montana Indians, and their related learning needs. We have taken this critique very seriously, taken responsibility for the lack of clarity, and are excited to show reviewers the strength of our commitment.

A primary concern raised by the reviewer(s), and their indication that we have not met the standards (a) and (d), warrants further clarification and additional detail. We believe we meet these standards by systematically offering content pertinent to Indians of Montana in a wide variety of courses. This content is taught in multiple departments including, Native American Studies; Anthropology; History; Political Science; Science; Health and Human Performance; and Curriculum and Instruction. In the case of the Elementary Program, the essential understandings and requirements of Indian Education for All are introduced at the pre-education level with subsequent opportunities to build on this knowledge throughout their two years in the Teacher Education Program. This occurs in no less than 14 courses including implementation and evaluation in three field experiences and culminating in the demonstration of IEFA knowledge and skills in Student Teaching. For Secondary and K-12 Programs, Indian Education for All is addressed in no less than 12 courses including implementation and evaluation in two field experiences and culminating in the demonstration of IEFA knowledge and skills in Student Teaching. Before introducing our Indian Education for All webpage, clarification is provided on the systematic approach—and the universal nature—of the coverage of this content.

It was not clear to the reviewers that all undergraduate candidates must take a course in Native American Studies. This is not optional. The only other approved option is a course in Anthropology (ANTY 323X: Native Peoples of Montana). For Elementary Candidates, there are two required courses in History, one in Political Science, one in Science, and two in Health and Human Performance, all of which address Montana Indians. Further, there is a long list of courses that are required in Curriculum and Instruction that address both standards (a) and (d).

Similarly, all students in Secondary and K-12 programs are required to take a course in Native American Studies or Anthropology, multiple courses in Curriculum and Instruction, and methods courses in the respective departments. We feel there is extensive coverage of the content of Indian Education for All for all of our candidates, in directed courses and embedded across multiple courses. Next we provide access to and provide a brief overview of a supplemental resource we have developed.
We have developed this webpage dedicated to Indian Education for All to make the review of our materials easier and to provide clarity as to how we address the 10.58.501 (a) and (d) standards for initial licensure programs, and the more general standards for Advanced and Other School Professional Programs and Endorsements. In the left-hand column you will find the syllabi for each of the courses that address the standards. In the right-hand column you will find clarifying narratives and a variety of resources that are used in the courses. These resources include lesson templates, candidate work samples, lecture materials, and readings that have application to Indian Education for All. If you need further clarification on course content or would like to review additional materials, please let us know.