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Naropa Institute was founded in 1974 by artists and scholars under the direction of Chogyam Trunpa, Rinpoche. In the summer of 1975, the Masters Program in Buddhist and Western Psychology came into existence, graduating its first class in 1977.

The Institute offers degree and certificate programs in a variety of fields; among these are Bachelors and Certificate Programs in Psychology, Health and Healing, Dance/Movement Studies, Dance Therapy, Poetics, Music, Inter-disciplinary Studies, and Buddhist Studies. A Masters Program in Buddhist Studies is offered as well.

Naropa Institute holds candidate for accreditation status with the North Central Association of Colleges & Schools.

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