



GHC NATIVE PATHWAYS

GRAYS HARBOR COLLEGE NATIVE PATHWAYS Newsletter

February 2022

Spring Quarter Registration Is Under Way



Spring registration is in full swing and the Grays Harbor College Native Pathways Degree students are engaged in putting together course schedules and enrolling in Spring Quarter classes.

Core courses include choices from Math, English, Social Science, Humanities and Science distributions. The Electives division of the degree features courses that contain Native cultural relevance as do the Humanities and Social Science distributions.

Many of the Instructors in this curriculum also use Case Studies from the Evergreen Enduring Legacies website to further enhance course structure with cultural relevance.

For more information and/or assistance with enrollment procedures, please contact Gary Arthur, Program Coordinator, at 360-538-4209 or gary.arthur@ghc.edu

The Grays Harbor College Native Pathways Degree is a direct transfer Associate of Arts (AA) degree. This degree can be transferred to any four-year college or university, in most cases satisfying the general education degree requirements. An online degree with a hybrid component makes it truly unique and tailored for the students we serve.

GHC Important Dates

Feb 24- W Day (last day to withdraw from single class)

March 5&6- Evergreen Longhouse Gathering

March 21- Last Day of Instruction

March 22, 23, 24 Final Exams

April 11- Spring classes begin

Eagle artwork on this page by James Delacruz

In This Issue

- Page 1 Spring Quarter and GHC The Native Pathways Program
- Page 2 Diversity Advisory Committee
- Page 3 NWIFC, NCAI State of Nations Address
- Page 4 Canoe House



GHC Diversity Advisory Committee Promotes Equity and Inclusion

The Grays Harbor College Diversity Advisory Committee has been engaged with a priority initiative that embraces a diverse, equitable, and inclusive learning environment as part of the college Strategic Plan.

Evidence of this priority is revealed as the committee addresses issues and topics from across campus, but more specifically areas of importance connected to the education and inclusion of Native Students.

The following three areas are currently under discussion and serious consideration by the committee:

* The committee has been supporting the GHC administration in connection with the adaptation of a Land Acknowledgment statement that connects in an inclusive and equitable manner with the local Native Nations.

* Another proposal before the committee is the formation of a Tribal Advisory Committee that would provide an advisory voice for strategies that support Tribal student success.

* The committee has also resumed discussions that began four years ago in support of the construction of a Longhouse on the college campus.



GHC Native Pathways Service Area- The GHC Lower division Native Pathways AA program degree serves students from Nisqually, Quinault, Queets, Squaxin Island, Chehalis, Shoalwater Bay/Aberdeen, Tacoma, Suquamish, Puyallup and Makah.



GHC NATIVE PATHWAYS DEGREE

In order to better accommodate our students, GHC has created an **online degree** with a complimentary **hybrid** component. This means that the bulk of the courses for the degree are offered online complimented by face to face instruction two weekends during each quarter. The weekend meetings feature skills classes and seminars using breakout sessions on Indigenous topics, providing the cultural component to the degree. Weekend sessions take place at **The Evergreen State College Longhouse** and are referred to as “**Longhouse Gatherings**” highlighting the challenges presented in Indian Country through case studies, lecture, seminar, film, and guest speakers.

Course Load

A full time course load for the quarter would include two online courses plus the Weekend session courses. 12 to 13 credits are considered a full time load. Scheduling is flexible according to student personal and work schedules. A part time schedule of less than 12 credits is also on option, but may affect financial aid situations.

Benefits

A few benefits of online classes are that they require little to no commuting to campus. They can be done at home. Classes are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and generally one only need a computer and internet access the courses. Online classes are very compatible with working and changing family schedules.



The Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission (NWIFC) is a natural resources management support service organization for 20 treaty Indian tribes in western Washington. Headquartered in Olympia, the NWIFC employs approximately 65 people with satellite offices in Burlington and Forks.

NWIFC member tribes are: Lummi, Nooksack, Swinomish, Upper Skagit, Sauk-Suiattle, Stillaguamish, Tulalip, Muckleshoot, Puyallup, Nisqually, Squaxin Island, Skokomish, Suquamish, Port Gamble S’Klallam, Jamestown S’Klallam, Lower Elwha Klallam, Makah, Quileute, Quinault, and Hoh.

The NWIFC was created following the 1974 U.S. v. Washington ruling (Boldt Decision) that re-affirmed the tribes’ treaty-reserved fishing rights. The ruling recognized them as natural resources co-managers with the State of Washington with an equal share of the harvestable number of salmon returning annually.

GHC Native Pathways Students meet twice a quarter at the Evergreen Longhouse with the upper division Evergreen Native Pathways



FAWN SHARP DELIVERS INDIAN STATE OF THE NATIONS ADDRESS

Fawn Sharp (pictured above) former Grays Harbor College Board of Trustees member and current National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) President, delivered the State of the Nations address on February 14, highlighting the strength and resilience of the 574 Tribal Nations in the U.S.

In her speech, Sharp commended the Biden administration for enhancing partnerships in Indian Country and making a concerted effort in building stronger communication and listening to the priorities of tribes.

From Biden’s presidential memorandum on tribal consultation to the record number of Native appointments in his administration, Sharp said everyone can see the tangible progress being made.

“When we move together as one, we are able to heighten the presence of tribal nations and claim our role as a vital part of the original American family of governments,” Sharp said.

CONSTRUCTION CONTINUES ON CANOE HOUSE



CANOE HOUSE SKETCH



CANOE HOUSE UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Instructor Adam Pratt's Carpentry Program at Grays Harbor College continues construction on the Canoe House at Camp Bishop. The above sketch was provided by Shoalwater Bay Cultural Education Director, Tony Johnson, as a guide to formation of the house featuring cultural guidelines. The Canoe House and construction of the Canoe, which will sit atop the house, are scheduled to be completed in May. Many local financial donors have and are supporting this project. The Canoe House, as it has come to be called, is designed to shelter canoes, paddles, life preservers and instructional items for the YMCA campers. With its curved sidewalls and heavy timber frame, the design draws on the heritage of wooden boats, timber construction and Native Nation canoes.

NATIVE CASES INSTITUTE JUNE 29 AT EVERGREEN LONGHOUSE

The Native Cases Institute will be held June 29th this year on the Evergreen State College Campus in the Longhouse. This institute provides professional development in the use of Native Case Studies located on the Evergreen State website. (Link: [enduring legacies](#)) Over one hundred fifty case studies addressing issues in Indian Country on this site are compatible across the curriculum, and GHC instructors who have attended this training have used these case studies in their core courses not traditionally deemed Indigenous in content providing cultural relevancy to the curriculum. More than fifty educators nation-wide attend the Institute yearly, and have either used these cases in the classroom and/or have themselves contributed to the collection through their research.

Artwork by
Zeke Serrano

