SPRING QUARTER ENDS AT GHC

June 20 marked the last day of instruction for spring quarter at GHC, and Native Pathways Degree Students engaged in their final exams during that week.

Fall quarter registration is in full swing during this time and Native Pathways students are enrolling in their fall class schedules.

Besides standard English, Math, Social Science, Humanities, and Science courses common to the degree, Anthropology and elective courses support the culturally relevant content that makes this degree truly unique and supportive of our Native student population.

Prominent features of this curriculum are the weekend gathering sessions with the upper division Evergreen State College Students for seminar, discussion groups, guest speakers, and film. These valuable meetings in support of the degree take place at The Evergreen State College Longhouse. (See page 2 for program information and contacts)
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 an option, but may affect financial aid situations.

Online Component

Online courses at GHC are delivered through a program referred to as CANVAS, a web-based online learning system that allows students to log in for access to their classrooms at any time during the day.

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. Students from other Native Nations or urban areas are also welcome to join the program.

Contact Gary Arthur, Native Pathways Degree Coordinator for information.
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STUDENTS APPRECIATE THE NATIVE PATHWAYS DEGREE APPROACH

Student comments in connection with the course of study provided by the Native Pathways Degree, assists with assessment and support. The following quote by a Native Pathways student, Liz Prior, exemplifies this type of feedback.

“The design of the Native Pathways program has always been attractive to me. The hybrid classes are extremely convenient for those of us that live out in rural areas. By rural I mean it takes me an hour to get to my local Grays Harbor College campus. I have taken classes on the GHC campus before and although it was not horrible, it was not the best option for me. All in all, I would spend about eight hours a week commuting to college and back. On the other hand, traveling to the Evergreen campus a few times during the quarter is much more enjoyable. Traveling to learn more about the culture I missed growing up, makes it worth the time on the road.”

GHC INSTRUCTORS AND SUPPORT STAFF ATTEND THE NATIVE CASES INSTITUTE

A key area of support regarding cultural relevance connected to the Native Pathways Degree at GHC is the use of Native Case Studies located on The Evergreen State College Enduring Legacies Website.

Professional Development in the use of these case studies was held on June 29th at the Evergreen State College Longhouse. The attendants pre-read cases, and then during the conference assume the role of students as seminar and group discussion were used to simulate how case studies can be implemented in a classroom setting.

GHC participants were the following: Bill Dyer, Brandy Foreman, Tom Kuester, Chris Portmann, Adrienne Roush, Tia Allen, Misty Barlan, Matt Vargas, and Gary Arthur.

While over 30 credits of the 90 credit AA Degree have direct cultural relevance in course content, using Native Case studies in the core course curriculum further supports this dynamic. Educating all students in the area of Native culture also aids in closing equity gaps strengthening areas of diversity and inclusion.

The use of case studies involves problem-based learning, place-based learning, and collaborative learning as cornerstones of support. Cases promote student engagement and critical thinking in the context of complex and pressing real world issues. They are a terrific way of promoting diversity and critical thinking. During the conference participants practiced working through cases collaboratively to learn how to facilitate case analysis and discussion. The conference featured new cases on the cutting edge of current issues in Indian Country as well as a session on writing cases.
U.S. SUPREME COURT AFFIRMS OWNERSHIP OF LAKE QUINAULT BY THE QUINAULT NATION

The Supreme Court Justices refused to review a ruling by the federal Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals rejecting the claim that the Quinault Nation has no jurisdiction over the lake. “We are optimistic this ruling by the highest court in the land is the end of the road for this misguided challenge to the Quinault Nation’s exclusive and sovereign right to manage natural resources on our Reservation,” said Quinault Nation President Guy Capoeman. “Lake Quinault is sacred to our people. We appreciate the support of the majority of our neighbors who live and own land along the lake and share our mission to keep the lake clean and healthy today and for future generations.

SHOALWATER BAY PRESENTATION BUILDS PARTNERSHIPS AND CONDUCTS RESEARCH

A library event that featured Collaborative Archaeology in Willapa Bay: Building Partnerships and Conducting Research with the Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe and Chinook Indian Nation with Dr. Anna Antoniou was featured on May 19 and June 9. Recordings of this event are posted on the Shoalwater Bay Website.

CHEHALIS EDUCATION DEPARTMENT PROVIDES OPPORTUNITIES AND GROWTH

The Chehalis tribal education department gives Native families and individuals opportunities for continued academic growth and success. The Vision Statement states that “We, the people of the sand, are entrusted with the land, our heritage, and our people. We strive to live in harmony with our world and teach our children to walk in a good way. We have always educated our children, and will continue to teach them, weaving together cultural knowledge and tribal values with contemporary education to invoke, inspire, and strengthen our community for the benefit of us all.”

COWLITZ TRIBAL CHAIR REMEMBERED FOR HIS PASSION AND GENEROSITY

Dave Barnett, general council chairman of the Cowlitz Indian Tribe who successfully guided his tribe’s economic development, passed away last month. Born Oct. 9, 1960, in Aberdeen, Washington, Barnett was elected chairman in June 2021. His chairmanship was a capstone of a long career serving his people, particularly as a spokesperson for his tribe and point man on deeding the tribe’s first land into trust and developing a casino. Known for development of tribal initiatives that supported such things as equal distribution of covid relief funds, improving universal health care coverage for all members, language conservancy, and monetary support for disabled members, were among the many actions he took as tribal chairman. (Seattle Times)

CANADA CELEBRATES INDIGENOUS PEOPLE’S DAY

Forty years ago, the Assembly of First Nation declared June 21, 1982, as the first National Aboriginal Solidarity Day in Canada, and by 1996, the Canadian government had recognized June 21 as National Indigenous Peoples Day. This year, the Indigenous Day Live event was held on June 18, following the tradition of holding the event on the Saturday closest to the Summer Solstice. (Indian Country Today)