Grays Harbor College Welcomes NPP Students

GHC welcomes Native Pathways students to Fall Quarter 2021. Whether brand new, a continuing student, or a returning student who has been away from college for some time, The Native Pathways Program welcomes all! As a comprehensive community college, Grays Harbor College is here to help achieve academic and career aspirations. Whatever obstacles might be encountered, support from our faculty and staff is available as they are all committed to student success. Best wishes for a great Fall Quarter!

NOTABLE FALL QTR. DATES

* Sept. 20, First Day of Classes
  Log In to Canvas Classrooms

* Oct. 2, Orientation for Longhouse Gatherings
* Oct. 1 Last day to drop without a ‘W’

* Nov. 3 & 4 Native Cases Institute

* Nov. 6 & 7, First Longhouse Gathering

* Nov. 12, W Day, Last Day to Withdraw From Classes

* Dec. 4 & 5, Second Longhouse Gathering
* Dec. 6 Last Day of Instruction

FOR STUDENT SUPPORT ACCESS THE FOLLOWING ON THE GRAYS HARBOR COLLEGE WEBSITE

Advising & Counseling, Financial Aid, Academic Support, Disability Support, eLearning & Canvas, Transcripts, Student Assistance Team (STAT)
The Evergreen State College Longhouse

Two weekends during the quarter GHC Native Pathways Students gather at the Evergreen Longhouse in Olympia, Washington with the upper division Evergreen Native Pathways students for lecture and seminar on Indigenous current events and issues. The Longhouse Gatherings for Fall quarter are in November and December.

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 reservations or urban areas are also welcome to join the program.

Gary Arthur, GHC Native Pathways Degree Coordinator

I would like to add my welcome to all Native Pathways students as the fall quarter begins. As primarily online learners at GHC, your course of study is unique in comparison to our other degree options at Grays Harbor College. Online learning helps fit the schedule of our students who work and have families or live far from campus, and we are committed to support your efforts while on your educational journey. As you have heard many times, if you are in need of assistance during your course of study, do not hesitate to contact us.

Contact Gary Arthur,
Native Pathways Degree Coordinator for information.
gary.arthur@ghc.edu (360) 538-4209

GHC Native Pathways Degree

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 an option, but may affect financial aid situations.

Online Component

Online courses at GHC are delivered through a program referred to as CANVAS.

Canvas is a web-based online learning system that allows students to log in for access to their classrooms. Features include reading information, inputting responses to instructors or classmates, printing host documents, testing and messaging.

Online classes are very compatible with working and changing family schedules as well as place based students.
STUDENTS OFFER HELPFUL ADVICE AT START OF QUARTER

Fall quarter has began and whether students are involved with course work online or on campus, there are a number of areas that connect with a student’s course of study. The following Native Pathways Students have valuable suggestions for campus and course connections that are in support of academic achievement.

During the pandemic it has been hard to get actual attendance with no in-person classes, with that being said, any chance given to speak with an instructor is key. Also, get to know other students. Being alone during the pandemic and not being able to socialize with classmates as you usually could is not ideal. Making connections with other students and getting help is something I have always found to be very helpful. Laanaa Peterson

When you make a schedule, it will help you manage your studying and testing times. Read everything because the more you know about the class and assignments the more successful you will be. Students shouldn’t hesitate to ask the instructor questions in the beginning of the quarter. This is helpful and important to know in the beginning of a quarter because it would help you to know your instructor and the classroom expectations or assignments a bit more if you have any questions about them. Isaac McKinney

Being organized is vital to success. Organizing class material that I’ve gotten from each class has really been helpful this first week. It is providing a huge sense of security in knowing where everything is. Having physical copies of the syllabi to refer to is something I really like considering the amount of time that needs to be spent on a computer. Elizabeth Prior

The GHC website has helpful links for students. I learned some of the resources that are offered for students. Some of them being counseling, emergency funding, and some things to help students who have learning disabilities or impairments. I also learned about campus life including ways to find jobs for students, and also about clubs in the school. Lillian Forsman

Elizabeth Prior also had this to say about the program in general:

“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.”
Native Cases Institute To Take Place November 3 & 4

The 2021 Enduring Legacies Native Cases Conference will build on more than fifteen years of work developing interdisciplinary teaching case studies on significant issues in Indian Country and offering workshops for educators to network and learn how to use the cases in their classes and staff development. The interdisciplinary collection of cases covers a wide range of topics applicable to all academic fields. Problem-based learning, place-based learning, and collaborative learning are the cornerstones of the approach. 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. At this institute, participants will practice working through cases collaboratively to learn how to facilitate case analysis and discussion. The conference will feature a number of new cases on the cutting edge of current issues in Indian Country. The conference is held each year at the Squaxin Island Little Creek Resort. Educators nation wide have attended the conference, and over 125 case studies are available on the Evergreen Enduring Legacies website.

GHC Instructors to Attend Native Cases Institute

The Native Cases Institute provides professional development for the classroom use of Native Case Studies published on the Evergreen Enduring Legacies website. The following GHC Instructors will be in attendance this year on November 3 & 4:

Patrick Womac - Bachelor of Applied Science Teacher Ed. Program Instructor in the Social Science Dept.– He uses Native case studies in his curriculum and has encouraged his students to attend the Institute
Jenel Cope - History and Political Science Instructor - Developed and implemented a Native American History course into the GHC college curriculum
Nathaniel Woods - Human Services Faculty and Interim Administrator of the program
Page Carol-Woods - Student Support Specialist in GHC TRIO Program
Tom Stearns - English Instructor and administrator of the Campus Writing Center
Gary Arthur - Native Pathways Degree Coordinator/Student Advisor

CULTURAL RESOURCE CAREERS

Quinault Tribal Cultural Resources Specialist, Justine James, has announced the possibility of career choices in the field of Cultural Resources Management in such areas as archaeology, anthropology, or similar fields. Interested parties should connect with him. He shared experiences connected with an archaeological field trip this summer with a tribal college intern and two co-workers. The intern was able to receive college credit for the experience.