President Brewster Welcomes NPP Students

I am excited to welcome you as new or returning students to Fall Quarter 2022. The Theme at GHC this year is Building the Future and we have many things happening to help us build that future for you. From construction of the new building on campus, to increasing our course options, and providing additional services to support you through completion of your studies, GHC is here to serve you!

Please let us know if there is anything we can do to help you be successful during the time you are with us.

I wish you all of the very best in the accomplishing your goals this quarter and throughout the year!

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NOTABLE FALL QTR. DATES

*Sept. 19, First Day of Classes
  Log In to Canvas Classrooms

*Oct. 1, Orientation for Longhouse Gatherings

*Sept. 23 Last Day for 100% Refund

*October 7, Last Day for 50% Refund

*Nov. 5&6, First Longhouse Gathering

*Nov. 14, W Day, Last Day to Withdraw From Classes

*Dec. 3&4, Second Longhouse Gathering

CONSTRUCTION CONTINUES ON NEW GHC STUDENT SERVICES AND INSTRUCTION BUILDING (SSIB)

An aerial view of the current construction site on the GHC campus is featured at left. The completion date for the new building was originally scheduled for the fall of 2023.

This view is of the construction site is from above the GHC Library. Grade beam framework pictured in both photos highlight the intended space for the bookstore.

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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 Fall quarter are November 5 & 6 and December 3 & 4.

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 tribal nations 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 (above) 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 on 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 emailing.

Online classes are very compatible with working and changing family schedules, and place based students who cannot travel to campus.
The Native Cases Institute will hold a professional development conference on November 8 & 9 at the Squaxin Island resort in Shelton, WA. These sessions will have educators in attendance from all over the Pacific NW. The conference is sponsored by The Evergreen State College Native Cases Initiative and the Center for Climate Action & Sustainability.

While over 30% of the GHC Native Pathways Curriculum has direct cultural relevance in its course content, many core course faculty at GHC have attended the Institute and use Native case studies in their classes supporting even further cultural relevance to the degree.

CHINOOK TRIBE MAKES ANOTHER PLEA FOR JUSTICE

Another rally was held at the end of August by Chinook Tribal Leaders as they called on the U.S. Congress to act before the end of the year to restore formal federal recognition that was granted by one presidential administration but canceled by the next. The tribe stated how the “take-back” of federal recognition has negatively impacted members of the tribe connected to health care, education, housing, and lack of federal and state resources.

Restoring recognition would put the tribe in charge of its own destiny. Having a formal position of power on the Lower Columbia River would be gratifying to see the original stewards of this region regain strategies as the traditional caretakers of the environment.

CHINOOK NATION MEMBERS CARRY CANOE AT LEFT

MATIKA WILBUR CHANGING PERSPECTIVES

Matika Wilbur at right (Swinomish and Tulalip) is one of the nation’s leading photographers, based in the Pacific Northwest. She earned her BFA from Brooks Institute of Photography where she double majored in Advertising and Digital Imaging. Her most recent endeavor, Project 562, has brought Matika to over 300 tribal nations dispersed throughout 40 U.S. states where she has taken thousands of portraits, and collected hundreds of contemporary narratives from the breadth of Indian Country all in the pursuit of one goal: To Change The Way We See Native America.

UTES SIGN NEW AGREEMENT WITH UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

A memorandum of understanding has been signed by the University of Utah in connection with the use of the Tribal ‘Utes’ name as a sports mascot, but a new stipulated agreement has been signed with the University. The Ute Tribe has agreed to continue allowing sports teams to compete as “Utes” - though as part of an update to the agreement, the school must educate all incoming students about the tribe. (Salt Lake Tribune)

UTE TRIBAL CEREMONIAL DANCERS PERFORM DURING UNIVERSITY OF UTAH FOOTBALL GAME AT LEFT

GHC and Evergreen Native Pathways students engage in the use of Native Case studies at one of the weekend gatherings at the Evergreen Longhouse.
NORTHWEST TRIBAL NATIONS LEAD IN LAMPREY RECOVERY

For millennia, tribes across Washington, Oregon and Idaho feasted on the odd-looking fish as they returned to fresh water every spring and summer to spawn. Among the oldest creatures on Earth, lampreys are integral to tribal culture as a “first food” and a vital part of nature’s web. But a single century of dam-building, development and habitat degradation decimated their numbers and blocked off much of their historic range.

Pacific lampreys are finally getting some official love — and money. The Pacific Lamprey Conservation Initiative was launched in 2008 after the endangered species petition was rejected due largely to lack of information. The coalition of more than 30 tribes, agencies and organizations is beginning to fill in data gaps with regular assessments and research. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which operates major Columbia and Snake river dams, has spent or committed $70 million to help lamprey navigate the massive edifices. (Doughton, Seattle Times)

CHICO STATE GIVES BACK ANCESTRAL LANDS

In historic ceremony, Chico State gives ancestral land back to local Mechoopda tribe. There are 110 federally recognized tribes in the state of California, and the Mechoopda tribe just made history in Butte County. In the first agreement of its kind in California, Chico State has given Butte Creek Ecological Reserve back to its ancestral owners, the Mechoopda Native American tribe. The momentous occasion couldn’t come at a better time. “Today is the 55th annual California Native American Day! Can we have a round of applause for that?” said Chico State President Gayle Hutchinson. (KCR news)

NEW QUINAULT WELLNESS CENTER OPENS

The center, located in Aberdeen, WA sponsored a ribbon cutting ceremony on August 30th. Plans are to add traditional art and items that are representative of the Quinault culture to the building. During the ribbon cutting ceremony, Quinault Tribal Council and Enterprise Board members took an official tour of the Center. Since that time, members of the media, elected officials, and the general public also toured the facility. (Nugguam)

SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBE AIDS IN ESTUARY RESTORATION

It is estimated that over 75% of Puget Sound estuary wetlands have been lost due to “filling, dredging, and diking.” This represents the greatest loss of habitat in the Puget Sound. Strategies such as dam removal and aggressive habitat restoration have offered positive results in restoring habitat and boosting Salmon runs. (KLAH-CHE-MIN publication)

THE CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF CHEHALIS FEATURE A RICH HERITAGE AND CULTURE PROGRAM

Sewing classes, weaving for Youth and Elders, beading classes, veterans events, and family trees are among the rich cultural events sponsored by the Chehalis. Within this program donation events are also featured such as salmon ceremony and cancer walk. “Team Work” is a phrase connected to these important happenings and the importance of culture, heritage, and community are thematic principles. (Confederated Tribes of Chehalis Website)

Contact Us

Get in touch with us for more information, about Native Pathways Programs.

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SHOALWATER BAY TRIBE FEATURES CULTURALLY SENSITIVE WELLNESS CENTER

The Shoalwater Bay Tribe provides compassionate, culturally sensitive, comprehensive health care for American Indian and Alaska Native people. Services are extended though, to non-Native individuals residing in the surrounding community who otherwise would have difficulty accessing care in this isolated rural area. This approach follows a tradition and spirit of giving and sharing common to the Shoalwater Bay Tribe. (shoalwaterbay-nsn.gov)