

GHC NATIVE PATHWAYS

Grays Harbor College Native Pathways Program Newsletter

November 2022



November is National Native American Heritage Month

What started at the turn of the century as an effort to gain a day of recognition for the significant contributions the first Americans made to the establishment and growth of the U.S., has resulted in a whole month being designated for that purpose. In 1990 President George H. W. Bush approved a joint resolution designating November 1990 “National American Indian Heritage Month.” Similar proclamations, under variants on the name (including “Native American Heritage Month” and “National American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month”) have been issued each year since 1994. <https://nativeamericanheritagemonth.gov/>

GHC President Brewster Encourages Celebration of Native American Heritage Month

College Community, As you may know, November is Native American Heritage Month, which is set aside to recognize and celebrate the rich cultures, traditions, and heritage of our Native Nations. If you would like to take this opportunity to review GHC’s Land Acknowledgement Statement, you can do so here:

<https://www.ghc.edu/grays-harbor-college-land-acknowledgement-statement>. GHC’s Land Acknowledgement pays honor and respect to the tribal Nations whose ancestral lands the College occupies. As we watch construction of the Student Services & Instructional Building, I am grateful to the Grays Harbor College Foundation for its support in funding local Native artwork for the new building—and I appreciate everyone in our College community for helping GHC honor the local Native Tribal Communities, and the talents and perspectives of their members.

Sincerely, Ed Brewster,
GHC President

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GHC NATIVE PATHWAYS DEGREE PROGRAM

A two year online degree program with cultural relevance. This degree is transferrable to most all four year institutions of higher learning, but also articulates with the Evergreen State College Native Pathways Bachelor's Degree and is therefore referred to as a Bridge Program.

WINTER ENROLLMENT NOW UNDER WAY FOR NPP

Grays Harbor College Native Pathways students are currently signing up for winter quarter classes. Winter quarter courses include, but are not limited to the following options:

Anthropology, Library, Political Science, Psychology, Astronomy, and Humanities.

Winter quarter begins on January 4. The following links connect first time or former students to enrollment procedures

<https://www.ghc.edu/admissions/enrollment-services>

<https://www.ghc.edu/search/site/financial%20aid>

Once enrollment and financial aid procedures are complete, contact program coordinator, Gary Arthur, for advising and registration. Returning students from last quarter can also make this contact at the following:

gary.arthur@ghc.edu (360) 538-4209

GHC NATIVE PATHWAYS DEGREE IS A BRIDGE PROGRAM

GHC Native Pathways AA Degree students bridge with the upper division Native Pathways Students at The Evergreen State College. Two weekends during each quarter GHC students meet with Evergreen students at the Evergreen Longhouse (pictured below) for lecture, seminar, film and guest speakers. In this manner, there is a bridge between both programs. Although GHC students connect in this manner with Evergreen, their AA transfer degree is a direct transfer and connects with most four year institutions.



GRAYS HARBOR COLLEGE NATIVE PATHWAYS DEGREE

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.

The Degree Connects With GHC Mission, Vision, Core Themes, and Values.

Vision—GHC is a catalyst for positive change.

**Setting goals while reaching academic objectives in the Native Pathways Program enhances areas of accomplishment.*

Mission—GHC provides meaningful education and cultural enrichment through academic transfer, workforce preparation, basic skills and service to community. **Many Native Pathways Students go on to earn upper division degrees as well as employment upgrades. Many use acquired skills to improve and enrich tribal communities.*

Core Themes-Academic Transfer, Workforce Preparation, Basic Skills, and Service to Community. **These are concentrated areas of focus in the Native Pathways Program which articulates with Evergreen Native Pathways upper division degree.*

Values-Access to educational opportunities; Success for students, faculty, and staff; Respect for diversity of people, ideas, culture and environment; Efficient use of Resources.



NATIVE CASES INITIATIVE HOLDS CONFERENCE ON CLIMATE CHANGE

The November Native Cases conference focused on Washington Tribes and Climate Change. The agenda included Native cases and panels and presentations on various tribal actions to combat climate change and promote climate justice. The conference also featured a number of new cases on the cutting edge of current climate issues in Indian Country. The Native Case studies accessed on the Evergreen Enduring Legacies website provide important cultural relevance to the GHC Native Pathways Degree.

GHC INSTRUCTORS AND STAFF ATTEND NATIVE CASES CONFERENCE

To better serve students in the GHC Native Pathways Degree Program, and to support education of Native Culture to all students, GHC personnel attend and continue to attend the Native Cases Institute Conference for Professional Development in the use of Native Case studies in education. Below are quotes from those who attended the November Climate Change Conference.

Sean Lyons (Chemistry Faculty) - The Native Cases Institute offered me a new perspective on climate change (and teaching in general) that I think will improve my instruction by allowing me to present the course material in a more engaging way that is focused on social justice/equity. This focus should help the students make a deeper connection with the content and empower them to see how their actions impact society and how they can be the drivers of change they hope to see.

Adrienne Roush (Librarian)- I enjoyed the conference very much! The presentations and perspectives by the tribal members were invaluable. Not only did they provide information of interest to everyone-as climate change impacts us all-but I learned details about specific impact to our local tribes and their responses. Listening to the timeline of projects, and the reminder that *change takes time*, reinforces the long history native peoples have on these lands.

Adam Pratt (Carpentry Tech Faculty) - I enjoyed making connections with other people who are willing to share their unique experiences and viewpoints about our common interests. I sensed a level of sincerity and engagement that is uncommon at conferences.

Patrick Martin (Mathematics Faculty)- Very inspiring to hear about all of the "7th generation plus" environmental projects where tribes are leading the way. For example: beaver relocation for watershed habitat restoration, prescribed fires for forest management, biogas generation from dairy farm manure that is now kept out of the local salmon streams. Great to meet with faculty and tribal leaders that are passionate about climate change solutions. I'm very grateful to be able to access so many native case projects and climate change civic engagement assignments shared by my WA state colleagues.

Misty Barlan (Program Clerical Assistant) - I not only enjoyed, but learned invaluable information and definitely gained new perspectives from all the Tribal member speakers during the 2-day conference. The theme, 'climate change' is something that not only does our community have concerns about - Native or non-Native - but all communities; this is a world-wide issue. I enjoyed making the connections during the conference, especially listening and learning from everyone's experiences.

IMPORTANT DATES

December 3&4, Evergreen Weekend Gathering

GHC Dec. 5, Last day of instruction; Dec. 6 thru 8, Final Exams;
Jan.4, First day of Winter Quarter classes

President Biden Signs Native American Heritage Month Proclamation

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOSEPH R. BIDEN JR., President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim November 2022 as National Native American Heritage Month. I urge all Americans, as well as their elected representatives at the Federal, State, and local levels, to observe this month with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities, and to celebrate November 25, 2022, as Native American Heritage Day.

"My administration will continue to write a new and better chapter in the story of our Nation-to-Nation relationships," Biden stated in the document. "We will always honor the profound impact Native Americans continue to have in shaping our nation and bringing us closer to the more perfect Union we know we can and must be.

"The proclamation also designates Nov. 25 as Native American Heritage Day.

Panel Discussion Celebrates and Promotes Intergenerational Transfer of Knowledge

GHC Native Pathways Instructor, Tia Allen, is also the American Indian/Alaska Native Special Emphasis Program Manager for the EPA Special Emphasis Program Committee. She shared information about the Q&A Panel event on November 29th that featured EPA Regional Administrator, Casey Sixkiller in connection with presentations from Northwest Indian College. The voices of tribal scholars and active leaders in tribal communities were heard as well as highlighting the importance of cultural practice, identity, and place. Protecting human health and the environment were key points of emphasis.

GHC Librarian Adrienne Rousch Shares Link

[The Spellman Library blog](https://ghc.libguides.com/blog/Native-American-Heritage-Month-2022) includes a list of resources to help you learn more about the culture and history of our indigenous communities.

<https://ghc.libguides.com/blog/Native-American-Heritage-Month-2022>

BURKE MUSEUM IDENTIFIES RESOURCES

November is our national Native American Heritage month! As the Washington State Museum of Natural History and Culture, the Burke presents daily opportunities—both at the museum and out in the community—to engage with the living traditions of Native American cultures.

In celebration of Native American Heritage month, facts and helpful resources that support classroom teachers and parents in exploration of Native American culture are available at this website:

<https://www.burkemuseum.org/education/learning-resources/helpful-native-american-heritage-month-teaching-resources>