



GHC NATIVE PATHWAYS

GRAYS HARBOR COLLEGE NATIVE PATHWAYS Newsletter

February 2024

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

March 2&3 – Evergreen Longhouse Gathering

March 18 - Last Day of Instruction

March 19, 20, 21 Final Exams

April 8- Spring classes begin

Eagle artwork on this page by James Delacruz

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GHC Diversity Advisory Committee Promotes Equity and Inclusion

The DAC met on February 22nd to continue developing strategies and approaches to equitable inclusion of students on the GHC campus. The major objective discussed was creating a culture of belonging through access and inclusion. One of the key areas of discussion focused on the creation of three programs that support and retain diverse student populations. The programs discussed addressed student outreach, multicultural services through the Diversity Equity Center, and student-based organizations. Other objectives discussed maximizing student potential by closing achievement and performance gaps, and equitable institutional processes.

BOLDT DECISION RECOGNIZED ON FEBRUARY 12

The Boldt Decision, named after Judge George Hugo Boldt, was handed down on February 12, 1974. This landmark ruling reaffirmed the rights of Native American tribes in the Pacific Northwest to fish in their traditional territories. It upheld the treaties signed by the United States government in the 1850s, recognizing the tribes' inherent rights to fish in their accustomed waters.

WESTERN WASHINGTON NATIVE AMERICAN EDUCATORS CONSORTIUM

GHC Native Pathways Clerical Assistant, Misty Barlan, attended an American Educators Consortium February 22nd and 23rd. The event that was held at Muckleshoot, featured educators that shared strategies for Indigenous student success. Notable presentation topics dealt with identity, culture and belonging, tribal partnerships, impacts of colonization, and cultural awareness.

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 to 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. (NWIFC Website)

GHC Native Pathways Students meet twice a quarter at the Evergreen Longhouse with the upper division Evergreen Native Pathways students for lecture and seminar.



Quinault Indian Nation member among five selected for board to study impact of Indian boarding schools

Rebecca Black of the Quinault Indian Nation will serve on the five-person advisory board announced by Attorney General Bob Ferguson Tuesday. The Truth & Reconciliation Tribal Advisory Committee will map the extent of Indian boarding schools in the state, and the damage caused by their poor treatment of children. A report by the Department of the Interior has indicated that 15 of these boarding schools operated in Washington, though it could be higher when accounting for asylums and orphanages that targeted American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian children. “These schools are not just a shameful part of our history — the trauma they caused reverberates through generations of Indigenous families,” Ferguson said in a news release. “This week, we do more than just observe the National Day of Remembrance for Indian Boarding Schools. With this new committee, we start a long but essential journey toward healing.” (The Chronicle)



CHINOOK CHAIRMAN TONY JOHNSON REPORTS LEGAL VICTORY

Chairman Tony Johnson (pictured left) announced a significant legal victory for the Chinook Nation by securing settlement funds from the longstanding Docket 234 case. In 1970 the Indian Court of Claims acknowledged that Chinook ancestral lands were unjustly stolen from them by the government, but due to lack of federal recognition receiving the funds has become a prolonged legal battle. However the Federal Courts, the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Congress have affirmed the right to these funds as well as tribal legitimacy and legal connection to ancestral lands identified as rightful descendants of Lower Chinook and Clatsop ancestors.

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GHC NATIVE PATHWAYS STUDENT QUOTE

Native Pathways student, Georgia Ustaszewski, shared the following thoughts about the GHC Native Pathways Online Degree Program: “The advantage of online academic is amazing. It teaches students to be independent on their own and to teach them more about time management, and it is flexible. You can have more free time and choose when is the best time to do your homework. Three aspects of the Program that appeal to me are respect, gratitude and the culture of people knowing and wanting to know. Everyone in our culture respects the culture and respects what the culture brings to the table and others through our studies.”

GHC AND SHORELINE CC HONOR NW INDIGENOUS PEOPLES WITH BUILDING NAMES

A proposal before the GHC Board of Trustees will identify a name with Native cultural significance. The new Student Services Instruction Building on campus which will be opening soon will adopt this name upon approval of the Board. Also, in an additional earnest endeavor to strengthen ties with local tribes, and to honor the rich cultural heritage of the Indigenous Peoples of the Pacific Northwest, Shoreline Community College (Shoreline) is proud to announce the naming of its new academic facility “Cedar” which pays homage to the region’s natural environment. The GHC proposed name ‘tulalW’ is derived from the Quinault language and means ‘together’.

EVERGREEN STATE GRAD FEATURES ARTWORK AT PCC LONGHOUSE

Artwork by Ashley Frantz will be on display in ʔaʔkʷustəŋáwtxʷ House of Learning, Peninsula College Longhouse through April 18, 2024. A Makah Tribal member, Frantz was born and raised in Port Angeles and graduated from Peninsula College and the Evergreen State College’s Native Pathways Program. Frantz enjoys photography and working with fiber arts and recently started knitting with cedar rope. Her exhibit focuses on healing through relationship with identity, celebrating womanhood, and coming into your age. Frantz said her inspiration for this art collection comes from the Indigenous women she has created connections with throughout her life. The artwork features matriarchs and women making a difference in community. “This collection highlights Indigenous femininity, intergenerational connection, and strength. I also incorporated qʷi·qʷidiččaʔ (Makah language) into naming most of my pieces,” said Frantz.

Artwork (right)

By Zeke Serrano

