

# GHC NATIVE PATHWAYS

Grays Harbor College Native Pathways Program Newsletter

July 2023

## Native Pathways Students Schedule Fall Courses

Students in the GHC Native Pathways Degree Program are in the process of scheduling fall course work. The cohort of students range geographically from across Western Washington in this unique and established online degree program. This degree is exclusive at this level in the State of Washington as far as course offerings and program of study bridging with The Evergreen State College.

The culturally relevant curriculum is featured as the following classes for fall are offered in connection with this Associate of Arts transfer degree:

***First Year Experience, English, Business Tech Keyboarding, Anthropology, Earth Science, Mathematics, Humanities.*** The Humanities courses contain direct cultural relevance content and connect with the upper division Evergreen State College Native Pathways students. Many core course faculty have taken professional development in the use of classroom Native Case Studies and use these in their classes further increasing cultural relevance to the degree.



## NOTABLE DATES

**AUG. 10 – last day summer instruction**

**AUG. 15 – summer grades available**

**AUG.21 –tuition due date for fall**

**SEPT. 4 – Labor Day Campus Closed**

**SEPT. 20 – last day to add fall class**

**SEPT.21 – first day of fall classes**



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## NATIVE PATHWAYS CLERICAL ASSISTANT



Misty Barlan, (left) a graduate of GHC and the upper division Evergreen Native Pathways Degree Program, is the Native Ed Coordinator for the Aberdeen School District. She also works in a part time status as Clerical Assistant for the GHC Native Pathways Degree Program. She helps connect her students in the school district with information about the Native Pathways Program at GHC. Her notable duties at GHC involve outreach, record keeping,

correspondence, and student support. Her initiatives with the school district that also resonate at GHC address youth leadership programs, academic support, and student advocacy.

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## SARAH DENNISON SIGNS SCHOLARSHIP

GHC basketball player, Sarah Dennison, (right) has just signed a letter of intent at Navajo Technical University for women's basketball. **Navajo Technical University** is a public tribal land grant university in Crownpoint, New Mexico. NTU is the largest tribal college in the country and is a 1994 land grant university. It has been accredited by the Higher Learning Commission since 2005. Before coming to GHC, Sarah was an ambassador for the University of New Mexico with the title of Miss Indian UNM.



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**The Evergreen State College Longhouse (below) is where GHC students connect with Evergreen upper division students two weekends during the quarter for lecture, seminar, film, and guest speakers.**



## 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. *\*Administration and faculty strive to support these values while providing support and encouragement to our Native Pathways Students.*

**CONNECTING NATIVE  
PATHWAYS AA DEGREE  
WITH EVERGREEN**

This GHC Native Pathways AA Degree Program is also referred to as the “Bridge Program” because it is designed to articulate with The Evergreen State College upper-division Native Pathways Bachelor’s Degree. The GHC Associate of Arts (AA) degree also transfers to any four-year college or university.

**THE EVERGREEN STATE  
COLLEGE NATIVE  
PATHWAYS BASED  
DEGREE**

The upper division Native Pathways program offered through Evergreen is open to students who have accumulated 90 credits and have Junior and Senior standing. This program leads to a Bachelor of Arts degree (BA). There is also an online option available.

The Evergreen program meets twice a week at five different sites and two weekends at The Evergreen Longhouse each quarter for lecture and seminar.

Evergreen’s Native Pathways program is an interdisciplinary Liberal Arts program taught from a Native perspective.



**INTERTRIBAL CANOE JOURNEY RETURNS**



For the first time since 2019, the intertribal canoe journey is returning to the Pacific Northwest and includes multiple stops along the North Olympic Peninsula as crews make their way to the Muckleshoot Indian Nation near Auburn

Organized regional paddle journeys were postponed for three years, largely due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The annual canoe journeys began in 1989 with the “Paddle to Seattle” and have been held each year since, with a different tribe hosting the trip each year.

Between 120-130 canoes are expected to arrive at Alki Beach in West Seattle on July 30, according to Rollin Fatland, media specialist for the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe.

On the North Olympic Peninsula, families will leave from Quinalt, Queets and Hoh River and arrive in Quileute on Thursday and in Neah Bay and Pillar Point the following two days.

On July 23, canoe families from the West End and Vancouver Island will arrive in Port Angeles for two days hosted by the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe before heading east. Families are expected at Jamestown Beach on July 25 and in Port Townsend on July 26. **(peter.segall@peninsuladailynews.com.)**

**NORTHWEST INDIAN FISHERIES COMMISSION ELECTIONS**

NWIFC elections held in May featured Joseph Peters, Squaxin Island, as Treasurer, and Lisa Wilson, Lummi, as Vice Chair. Ed Johnstone, Quinalt, received a vote of confidence in his role as Chair .

# NATIVE NEWS

## HARVEST MANAGEMENT AND SALMON RECOVERY

Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission Chair, Ed Johnstone (Quinault), reported that the treaty tribes in Western Washington and the state co-manager finalized the 2023-24 fishing season agreement. He said that the tribes and the state have the same goal when there are harvestable numbers of salmon returning. He pointed out that fishing opportunities are provided for everyone connecting with the sharing principle defined by the 1974 Judge Boldt decision. He said that it is harder to meet conservation goals because of diminishing returns and that we need to work together to stop the ongoing destruction of habitat. (Northwest Treaty Tribes magazine)

## VICE PRESIDENT HARRIS VISITS GILA RIVER COMMUNITY

U.S. Vice President, Kamala Harris, during her visit to the Gila River Indian Community, made key comments addressing the climate crisis. “In order to create enduring solutions to the climate crisis, we must then rely on the knowledge and the experience of Native communities. And that is why we are investing billions of dollars to help fund Native-led — not Native-consulted — Native-led, climate-resilient infrastructure projects.” She also spoke to Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and highlighted the government initiatives in place to address this. (Indian Country Today)

## SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBE LOOKS TO REVITALIZE KELP

Partnering with the Puget Sound Restoration Fund and the Washington Department of Natural Resources, the Squaxin Island Tribe combined efforts to string 1500 feet of kelp-seeded lines underwater in an effort to help this resource of cultural and environmental importance thrive again. (KLAH-CHE-MIN publication)

## SHOALWATER BAY TRIBE UPLAND VILLAGE RELOCATION PROJECT

Senator Cantwell announced funding for a Shoalwater Bay Tribe relocation road project. She said, “The Shoalwater Bay Tribe is at a critical juncture in their reservation expansion and climate resiliency efforts. This funding will construct a roadway with the necessary utilities infrastructure, allowing the Tribe to relocate critical infrastructure while preserving their cultural growth and economic success.” (<https://www.shoalwaterbay-nsn.gov/>)

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## CHEHALIS TRIBE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT VISION STATEMENT

The Chehalis tribal education department gives Native families and individuals opportunities for continued academic growth and success.

“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.”

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## NATIVE CASE STUDIES SUPPORT PATHWAYS CURRICULUM

While over 30 credits of the 90 credit Native Pathways 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. There are over 100 case studies located on The Evergreen State College website (below) that address a wide range of topics and areas of study. <https://nativecases.evergreen.edu/>