

# GHC NATIVE PATHWAYS

Grays Harbor College Native Pathways Program Newsletter

July 2024



## UPCOMING NOTABLE DATES

**AUG. 8** – last day summer instruction

**AUG. 14** – summer grades available

**AUG.26** –tuition due date for fall

**SEPT. 2** – Labor Day Campus Closed

**SEPT. 9 & 10** – GHC Enrollment Days

## **GHC Native Pathways Students Connect With Fall Scheduling**

Grays Harbor College enrollment for fall '24 Native Pathways classes, continues to climb through the end of July. Total participation looks to equal or better fall '23 enrollment as students begin to prepare for classes through continued engagement with and use of the new CTC Link system which supports the online approach of the Native Pathways Degree.

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 Anthropology and Humanities courses contain culturally relevant content and Humanities classes connect with the upper division Evergreen State College Native Pathways students.

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## GHC 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. An online degree with a hybrid component makes it truly unique and tailored for the students we serve.

**UNIQUE FEATURES** –There are many unique areas that set the **GHC Native Pathways Degree** apart from other degree options from around the state at other institutions of education.

- **Evergreen connection** –The GHC Native Pathways Degree is referred to as the Bridge program highlighting the connection with the Evergreen upper division program. Although the degree is transferrable to most all four year colleges, it has a unique association with Evergreen as far as curriculum approaches and culturally relevant course offerings. The degree also connects with the GHC Bachelor of Applied Science in Teacher Education and will also be connecting with GHC Natural Resources Program.
- **Online approach** - For the most part, GHC Native Pathways students are place based and live far from campus. The online approach accommodates issues of travel, work, and family commitments. Face to face instruction is also available as a preference.
- **Culturally relevant curriculum** - Thirty two credits out of 90 required for completion of the degree contain culturally relevant content. Also many of the core course faculty have engaged in Professional Development connected to the use of Native Case Studies which further enhances cultural relevance to the degree.
- **Supportive and engaged faculty, staff, and administration** - From enrollment procedures to advising, to instruction the Native Pathways Program at GHC enjoys total support for its students and their success.

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 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 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.



## NATIVE CASES INSTITUTE HELD AT EVERGREEN ON JULY 13 & 14

Educators from around the Pacific NW attended the latest Native Cases Institute on July 13 & 14 at the Evergreen State College Longhouse. Featured speakers were David Trout, Nisqually Director of Natural Resources, and Shana Brown from the Seattle Public Schools Education and American Indian Resource Library. The conference featured the presentation and classroom use of Native Case Studies as well as approaches to writing cases.

*PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN THE USE OF CLASSROOM CASE STUDIES INCLUDE INSTITUTE CONFERENCES AND ON CAMPUS PRESENTATIONS.*

<http://nativecases.evergreen.edu/> (Enduring Legacies Website)

The Enduring Legacies Native Cases Conferences build on more than nineteen years of work developing interdisciplinary teaching of case studies on significant issues in Indian Country and offering workshops for educators to network and learn how to use the cases. The interdisciplinary collection of cases covers a wide range of topics applicable to all academic fields. There are over 150 case studies available for classroom use and research on this website.

Problem-based learning, place-based learning, and collaborative learning are the cornerstones of the Native Cases 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 and critical thinking.

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## GHC FACULTY AND STAFF SUPPORT NATIVE CASES

For years, GHC Administration, Faculty, and Staff have supported the use of Native Case Studies by their attendance and participation in the Native Cases Institute professional development training since 2008.

Institute evaluation comments from these participants over the years routinely stated that expectations were met, new and effective teaching approaches were learned, and appreciation was voiced concerning presentation of case studies as “meaty and complex.”

The case studies from the Evergreen State College Enduring Legacies website strengthen the curriculum for the GHC Native Pathways Degree supporting inclusion and cultural relevance to the curriculum.



## NATIVE NEWS

### Washington State Governor Jay Inslee Signs Canoe Journey Proclamation

Governor Inslee signed a proclamation that encouraged all people to observe “Our Sacred Youth: Canoe Journey Week” from July 30th to August 5th. The proclamation stated that the tribal canoes from approximately 50 tribes will travel the traditional highways of their ancestors arriving at the Port of Tacoma, the traditional territory of the Puyallup Tribe of Indians. This monumental event for Native American families supports revitalization of culture and traditional knowledge as well as canoe teachings to younger generations. The proclamation also stated that the tribal canoe journey is a journey of healing, hope, honor, and hospitality—relationships are strengthened, family ties are renewed, and traditions are reclaimed.

### Muckleshoot Indian Tribe Sobriety Powwow

On July 26th through the 28th the Muckleshoot Sobriety Powwow took place at the Muckleshoot Powwow grounds. Singing and dance, softball tournaments, arts and crafts vendors, and powwow food were featured. There was another billing that featured Good Medicine: A Night of Native Stand-Up. (<https://allevents.in/bonney%20lake/muckleshoot-indian-tribe>)

### Governor and State Commerce Director Travel to Quinault

Washington State Commerce announced funding awards for Tribal climate resilience. Governor Inslee and Commerce Director Fong traveled to the Quinault Nation on July 16 to announce climate funding awards. Inslee said that tribes know best how to protect their land and people. Fong added that tribal nations are leaders in green energy and economies. He added that their perspectives can enrich the shared vision of a clean energy future that will protect our environment while creating good jobs for generations. (Nugquam)

### Chehalis Tribe Supports Education and Development

The following Mission Statement underscores the importance the Chehalis Tribe places on education: *The Chehalis Tribe believes in education, including early education, and is committed to providing comprehensive services including health, family resources and referral services, developmentally appropriate educational opportunities, parent education and a positive support system for the entire family. Every opportunity is made to meet community and individual needs, starting with our Early Childhood Department, including childcare and Head Start through Higher Education and Vocational Rehabilitation.*

(<https://www.chehalis-tribe.org/departments/education-and-development>)



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