

**CAMOSUN COLLEGE**  
**INDIGENOUS FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAM**  
**IFS 121 Circle and Elders Teaching 2 Winter 2012**

**INSTRUCTOR:** Sandee Mitchell  
**CLASS TIME:** Tuesday, 1:30 to 2:20  
**LOCATION:** WS'ANEC' School Board  
**TELEPHONE:** (250) 370-3124  
**OFFICE HOURS:** 3:00 to 4:00  
**EMAIL:** mitchell@camosun.bc.ca

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**Course Description:** This course consists of weekly circle-based discussions and debriefing sessions for program students, staff and faculty. On regular occasions, Indigenous Elders will join the circle to share their wisdom and oral traditions.

**Prerequisite(s):** IFS 120

**Course Learning Outcomes:**

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Respect the circle process as a critical component of the IFS program
2. Participate regularly in circle discussions
3. Provide contributions to circle discussions in a manner that contributes to the learning and development of all those involved

**Course Content:**

- Explore Aboriginal ways of knowing
- Examine strengths within the program content
- Discuss individual journeys
- Experience oral tradition
- Explore the importance of community and land
- Discuss best practices

**Textbook:**

No textbook required. Handouts may be provided in class

### **Evaluation of Learning:**

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|--|-----|
| 1. Participation: Attendance, sharing of experiences, active participation in-group work, cooperation and supporting others. Participation in a weekly talking circle. | 28% |
| 2. Bi-Weekly personal reflections. Handed in after elders visit.   | 40% |
| 3. 5-7 page Final Summery paper on learning  | 32% |

### **Assignments:**

#### **◇ Bi-Weekly Personal Reflection (6 required)**

Overview: You are required to submit 6 personal reflections and due dates are listed in the course syllabus. This reflection is a 3-5 page personal response to the topic or topics discussed in circle; it should be both personal and reflective.

#### **◇ Final Summery paper on learning 5-7 page**

What personal contribution in this circle are you proud of? How have you worked interdependently? What do you wish you could do over and why? What you have learned about yourself during this term. How have you grown in your Indigeneity and professionally through this term?

### **Grading System:**

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
90-100	A+		9
85-89	A		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+		6
73-76	B		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+		3
60-64	C		2
50-59	D		1
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved.	0

**80-100-DST - Exceeds expectations**

**50-80-Comm - Completed**

**WT - Working Towards**

**0-49-NC - Not complet**

## Course Content and Schedule

Session One January 10th	<b>Welcome Back Circle</b> <b>Review of Course Outline</b>
Session Two January 17th	<b>Discussion about who we are going to invite into the classroom this semester</b> <b>Planning for the Elders</b>
Session Three January 24th	<b>Gift Making Workshop</b>
Session Four January 31	<b>Elder in class</b>
Session Five February 7th	<b>Elder in class</b> <b>Personal Reflection #1 Due</b>
Session Six February 14th	<b>Personal Reflection #2 Due</b>
Session Seven February 21st	<b>Elder in class</b>
Session Eight February 28	<b>Personal Reflection #3 Due</b> <b>Circle</b>
Session Nine March 6th	<b>Elder in Class</b>
Session Ten March 13th	<b>Personal Reflection #4 Due</b> <b>Elder in Class</b>
Session Eleven March 20th	<b>Elder in class</b> <b>Personal Reflection #5 Due</b>
Session Twelve March 27th	<b>Personal Reflection #6 Due</b> <b>Elder in Class</b>
Session Thirteen April 3rd	<b>Circle and Planning for Feast</b> <b>Final Summary Paper Due</b>
Session Fourteen April 10th	<b>End of year celebration and Feast</b> Celebration with all of the Elders involved in the classes this term and last

**“Love is better than Anger. Hope is better than Fear. Optimism is better than Despair. So let’s be loving, hopeful and optimistic”. Jack Layton, 2011.**