



**CAMOSUN COLLEGE**  
**School of Health & Human Services**  
**Community, Family & Child Studies**

*IFS 121*  
*Circle and Elders Teachings*  
*Winter 2016*

## **COURSE OUTLINE**

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### **Description:**

This course will build on the learning from IFS 120 and will consist of weekly circle based discussions and debriefing sessions for program students, staff and faculty. Students will be expected to actively engage with Indigenous Elders and Knowledge Keepers who will join the circle to share their wisdom and oral traditions. Students will be expected to facilitate circle including opening and closing circle.

✦ *Please note: This outline will not be kept indefinitely. It is recommended students keep this outline for their records, especially to assist in transfer credit to post-secondary institutions.*

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### **1. Instructor Information**

**Instructors:** Sandee Mitchell  
**Class Time:** Tuesday, 1:30 to 2:50  
**Location:** WESENEC  
**Office Hours:** Tuesday 12:30 to 1:30  
**Phone:** 250-370-3124 or 250-544-2192  
**Email:** [Mitchell@camosun.bc.ca](mailto:Mitchell@camosun.bc.ca)

### **2. Intended Learning Outcomes**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will:

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

4. Independently connect with elders and begin to develop relationships with community.
5. Demonstrate a deeper level of speaking and listening skills in circle.
6. Open and close circle using appropriate protocols.

### 3. Required Materials

There are no required books for this course

### 4. Course Content and Schedule

- Explore Aboriginal ways of knowing
- Discuss individual journeys
- Experience oral tradition
- Explore the importance of community and relationship building

		<i>Topics</i>	
1	Jan 12 <sup>th</sup>	IFS 121 Orientation and review of course outline.	
2	Jan 19	Drum Making workshop with Richard (Mookaasige) Spearman	
3	Jan 26	Preparing for Elders coming to circle	
4	<b>Feb 2</b>	<b>Nuu Chah Nulth Elder: Barney Williams Jr. Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation</b>	
5.	Feb 9	Check in	
6.	Feb 16	Check-in	
7	<b>Feb 23</b>	<b>Elder: Ray Thunderchild Savana Walkingbear and George Sam are the hosts</b>	
8	Mar 1	Check in	
9	<b>Mar 8</b>	<b>Taiaiake Alfred – Circle will be moved to morning from 9:30 to 10:50 Brandon George and Rolando Johnson will need to be notified. Amanda and Tianna are the hosts</b>	
10	<b>Mar 15</b>	<b>Knowledge Keeper: Frank Conibear Frank will need Transportation Madeline, Michaela and Nina are the hosts</b>	
11	Mar 22	Check in	

12	Mar 29	<b>Elder: Mickey Cook</b> <b>Mickey may need transportation</b> <b>Brandon, Allicia and Rolando are the hosts</b>	
13	April 5	Check in	
14	April 12	Oral Presentations: What do you take away from Circle? What have our guest shared that impacted you?	

## 5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

Note: Subject to change based on the availability of resources or learning needs of students

### ELABORATION OF ASSIGNMENTS:

1. Students are expected to attend all classes and to be on time for class. Students will receive 6% for each class they attend and will be deducted 1% for each class that they are late arriving, for the total of 84% of their final grade.
2. Students will be expected to do an oral presentation at the end of the semester and talk about what they have learned from circle and elders teachings for the total of 8% of their final grade.
3. Students will be expected to open and close circle at least once during the semester and facilitate introducing elders and knowledge keepers to our circle for 8% of their final grade.

### ATTENDANCE:

- This course emphasizes experiential learning. Students are expected to attend all classes and to complete all assignments for this class.
- Participation is required and expected in all class discussions and activities. (E.g. Active listening, posing questions, supporting fellow students).
- Cell phones are to be turned off.
- Please respect others by listening and attending to fellow students, guests and the instructor.

- Students must arrange for an extension of an assignment BEFORE the due date.

## 6. Grading System

Competency Based Grading System

The following grading system will be used in this course:

### Competency Based Grading System (Non GPA)

This grading system is based on satisfactory acquisition of defined skills or successful completion of the course learning outcomes.

Grade	Description
COM	The student has met the goals, criteria, or competencies established for this course, practicum or field placement.
DST	The student has met and exceeded, above and beyond expectation, the goals, criteria, or competencies established for this course, practicum or field placement.
NC	The student has not met the goals, criteria or competencies established for this course, practicum or field placement.

## 7. Recommended Materials or Services to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course

### LEARNING SUPPORT AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

There are a variety of services available for students to assist them throughout their learning. This information is available in the College Calendar, through Student Services or on the College website at [www.camosun.ca](http://www.camosun.ca).

### STUDENT CONDUCT POLICY

There is a Student Conduct Policy. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of this policy. The policy is available in each School Administration Office, Enrolment Services, and on the College website at [www.camosun.ca/about/policies/policies.html](http://www.camosun.ca/about/policies/policies.html).

*The Department of Community, Family & Child Studies is committed to promoting competence, professionalism and integrity in our students and developing their core skills to succeed throughout their academic programs and in their careers. The purpose of Academic Honesty Guidelines is to provide clear expectations of appropriate academic conduct and to establish processes for discipline in appropriate circumstances. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content and the consequences of academic dishonesty. Before you begin your assignments, review the Academic Policies on the Camosun College website: <http://camosun.ca/learn/becoming/policies.html>*

