



Eyē? Sqâ'lewen:  
The Center for Indigenous Education and Community Connections

**INDIGENOUS FAMILY SUPPORT WORKER PROGRAM  
IFS 120-Circle and Elder's Teaching 1  
Fall 2016**

**Instructor:** Sandee Mitchell  
**Phone/email:** 250-370-3124/ 3299  
**Office hours:** by appointment  
**Class time:** Monday 1:30 to 2:50

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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):** Program admission or permission of Chair or Program Leader

**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.
4. Engage with Elders and Knowledge keepers.

**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 practice



### Evaluation of Learning:

1. Participation: Attendance, sharing of experiences, active participation in-group work, cooperation and supporting others. Participation in a weekly talking circle. 70%
  
2. Bi-weekly personal reflections. Handed in after elders visit. 30%

### 5. 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

### Course Content and Schedule

Session One Sept, 12th	Icebreaker: Getting to know one another Creating a positive and safe learning environment Welcoming the Medicine Bundle Discussion about smudging
Session Two Sept, 19th	Traditional family teachings and importance of family, elders and community. An overview of discussions throughout the term and importance of having Elders involved in academic teachings and how will we honor them? Planning for the elders
Session Three Sept, 26th	Preparing for our elders and knowledge keepers The importance of a spiritual connection in our daily lives
Session Four Oct 3rd	<b>Elders in class</b> May and Skip Sam
Session Five Oct, 10th	<b>College is closed for Thanksgiving. No classes today!</b>
Session Six Oct, 17th	<b>Elder in class</b> Victor Underwood and Bernadine Mawson Talk about the sweat lodge
Session Seven Oct 24th	<b>Check in</b> How do we maintain some of our traditional ways and stay true to who we are as Indigenous people, despite some of the obstacles we have encountered?
Session Eight Oct 31st	<b>Elder in class</b> Skip Dick
Session Nine Nov, 7th	<b>Sweat at Victor Underwood's</b>
Session Ten Nov, 14th	<b>Check in</b>
Session Eleven Nov, 21st	<b>Elder in class</b> Barney Williams
Session Twelve Nov, 28th	<b>Check in</b>
Session Thirteen Dec, 5th	<b>Elder in class</b> Ruth and George Cook
Session Fourteen Dec, 12th	<b>Last class</b> <b>Integration Day: What have we learned?</b> All reflection papers due today



