



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

**INDIGNEOUS FAMILY SUPPORT WORKER PROGRAM
IFS 120-Circle and Elder's Teaching 1
Fall 2017**

Instructor: Sandee Mitchell
Phone/email: 250-370-3124/ 3299
Office hours: by appointment
Class time: Monday 11:00 to 12:20

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, 11th	Icebreaker: Getting to know one another Creating a positive and safe learning environment Welcoming the Medicine Bundle Discussion about smudging
Session Two Sept, 18th	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?
Session Three Sept, 25th	The importance of a spiritual connection in our daily lives
Session Four Oct 2nd	Honored Guest Colleen O'Brien
Session Five Oct, 9	College is closed for Thanksgiving. No classes today!
Session Six Oct, 16th	Elder in class Drum Making workshop
Session Seven Oct 23rd	Victor Underwood and Bernadine Mawson Talk about the sweat lodge
Session Eight Oct 30th	Elder in class Skip Dick
Session Nine Nov, 6th	Sweat at Victor Underwood's
Session Ten Nov, 13th	Knowledge Keeper Kevin Barr
Session Eleven Nov, 20th	Elder in class Barney Williams
Session Twelve Nov, 27th	Elder is class Skip and May Sam
Session Thirteen Dec, 4th	Elder in class Ruth and George Cook
Session Fourteen Dec, 11th	Last class Integration Day: What have we learned? All reflection papers due today

