Dr. Fyre Jean Graveline has recently returned to her position as Professor in the First Nations Studies Department at UNBC. She is a Metis scholar, artist and activist who explores sociopolitical and cultural healing through expressive forms. She is currently teaching two courses FNST 407/607 Race Class Gender and Power and FNST 313 Healing With. In Art. In the Fall of 2013 she will be teaching two courses cross-listed with Women’s Studies. She welcomes all inquiries into her work. Contact her at graveli@unbc.ca.

HeART: An Indigenist Healing Perspective

My life and reality as a Metis Woman has truly been shaped by an intersection of Colonial and Indigenous realities. Living in two worlds has affected both conditions of my childhood, and how my career path as a helper, teacher, writer, artist, activist, mother continues to evolve. I see now, HeART, and in the ways that I am using and adapting Art Therapy theories and techniques, within a Healing with in. Art framework, that my Cultural and Spiritual realities provide a strong foundation in all of my Life.Work.
Congratulations to Patricia Howard, a recent FNST MA graduate, who has recently accepted the position of Coordinator, Aboriginal Community Engagement with Northern Health. This position has been a vacancy in Northern Health, Aboriginal Health. As part of the Aboriginal Health Strategy, she will liaise with Northern Health (NH) leaders and staff, the First Nations Health Authority (FNHA), Aboriginal Health Improvement Committees (AHICs), Community Engagement Hubs (Hubs) and Aboriginal communities/health agencies, to identify opportunities for holistic integrated health services. She assists communities and NH to enhance access and utilization of mainstream NH services and promotes holistic community based models of quality culturally appropriate care.

Alyce Johnson
Alyce Johnson attended the "Made in the North" forum in Yellowknife, NWT on October 22-25, 2012. The forum brought together participants to dialogue on northern perspectives on literacy issues, of which included Aboriginal literacy and language initiatives. For more information on the "Made in the North" forum, visit this website: http://www.madeinthenorth.ca.

Dr. Gregory Lowan-Trudeau was pleased to accept an offer from Peter Lang Publishers (New York) this fall to turn his doctoral dissertation into a book under the working title (Re)thinking Intercultural Approaches to Indigenous Environmental Education. Dr. Lowan-Trudeau's other recent and forthcoming publications include:


Alyce Johnson. 2013. Our Shagóon - Our History in Neal McLeod's Sounding out.

“Award winning author Richard Wagamese (a 2013 Canada Reads contender!) will be teaching FNST 498/650 for us again this summer. The class will be held over one week, August 12-16th, at the Quesnel campus. This is a recap of last year's very popular course, called “From the Oral Tradition to the Printed Page.”

Upcoming FNST courses in the region include three courses in Williams Lake, offered through the Tsilhqot’in National Government. Sponsorship may be available for Aboriginal students from outside the area. The first of these is FNST 498, offered in a one-week condensed format in the middle of March (final dates TBA). The title of this course is “Community Impact Analysis and Assessment” and will be taught by Titi Kunkel.

Two Tsilhqot’in language courses will also be offered in the spring/summer, FNST 232 (Language Level 4) and FNST 223 (Immersion). Details coming soon.

Aboriginal students may also be interested in another Williams Lake course, ENGL 120 (Introduction to Canada’s Native Literatures) to be offered over six weeks in the spring (May) semester. This course will be taught by Dr. Blanca Schorcht. It meets the requirements for an English literature course for students interested in pursuing a degree in Education”.

The FNST 298/301 course ‘Making a Cottonwood Canoe’ will be held at Lhezbaonichek, Lheidli T’enneh Reserve #3, just past the end of North Nechako Road from July 2 - 11. It will be a special experiential course in which the students will learn to make a cottonwood canoe in the traditional way under the direction of Lheidli Elders Robert and Edie Frederick with the assistance of Jennifer Pighin as TA. Both BFA students and students in FNST or any other program will learn an immense amount from this condensed summer course.

Summer 2013

Upcoming Events

Join us for Polar Days to walk the trails and build a lean-to on February 28 and March 1. Please contact Alyce Johnson at alyce.johnson@unbc.ca for more information.

FNST 313 Healing within Art: Student Art Show March 27, 2013 from 4:00pm to 5:30pm. Please contact Fyre Jean Graveline at fyrejean.graveline@unbc.ca for more information.

Idle No More Teach-In will be held March 2 through March 8 at UNBC. Please contact Fyre Jean Graveline at fyrejean.graveline@unbc.ca for more information.

Contact Us:

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Dr. Fyre Jean Graveline 250-960-5118 fyrejean.graveline@unbc.ca  Admin 3015  Office Hours: T 1:00pm – 4:00pm
Dr. Ross Hoffman (On Sabbatical) 250-960-5242 hoffman@unbc.ca  Admin 3039  On Sabbatical
Dr. Margo Greenwood (On Sabbatical) 250-960-5239 margo.greenwood@unbc.ca  Admin 3049  On Sabbatical
Dr. Greg Lowan-Trudeau 250-960-5434 lowan@unbc.ca  Admin 3020  Office Hours: T 11:30-12:30 / W 4:00-5:00pm