Teaching and Learning Indigenous Perspectives
IED Integrated Course Set leading to TQS
Category 5 or 5+ qualification upgrade
July 2024 - July 2025

Context
Indigenous education initiatives continue to be a high priority for School Districts across the province especially with the requirement of the BCTC Standard 9 for educators and the Indigenous credit requirements for Secondary Students. The Course Set is designed to meet that important and distinct need in a meaningfully integrated bundle of 10 courses offered over 13 months (2 face-to-face summers plus 2 terms of online delivery). With a focus on Indigenous knowledge, epistemology, pedagogy and education, this integrated set of courses serves to better prepare educators to work successfully naturalizing Indigenous perspectives within their work.

This Integrated Course Set is designed to give teachers an opportunity to learn from and about Indigenous knowledge, and to make valuable connections to the local Indigenous communities to strengthen their understanding of Indigenous peoples and societies. The 10 courses are offered in concert with each other resulting in an immersive experience in Indigenous learning, teaching and knowledge where in-service teachers gain valuable experience and make meaningful connections.

The Teaching and Learning Indigenous Perspectives Integrated Course Set is intended to support teachers with a 4-year B.Ed. (Elementary) degree in completing the requirements for attaining Year 5 on the TQS salary grid. It will also enable those with a 5-year B.Ed. (Elementary) to obtain their 5+ on the TQS salary grid. (However, teachers hoping to enrich their knowledge and skills in Indigenous education are welcome to take single courses throughout this set of courses.)

TQS recommends that all applicants apply for program pre-approval through their website to ensure that the program they intend to take will affect their category placement. Upon completion of this Integrated Course Set, individuals seeking a category upgrade from TQS will need to submit a formal application, official transcripts documenting this set of courses, and verification of employment in the BC public school system. The final decision for category upgrade rests with the TQS.

Courses and Schedule
Join us for this intensive and immersive experience in Indigenous education offered over 13 months with on-campus institute delivery July 2024 and July 2025, and online courses over two terms from September 2024 to April 2025.

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COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

July 2024 – on-campus intensive
IED 374 – Indigenous Pedagogies
Provides students with an examination of traditional and contemporary approaches to teaching and learning within an Indigenous worldview. Elements include distinctive features of Indigenous knowledge and pedagogy such as learning by observation and doing, learning through enjoyment, teachings of the Elders, and the use of humour among others.

IED 375 – Understanding Indigenous Language Contexts for Educators
Through the local language of the territory, such as SENĆOŦEN, stories, places, histories and greetings demonstrate how Indigenous languages and cultures situate people within their environment and contribute to an understanding of how language contexts can shape educator practice and worldview.

IED 473 – CENENITEL TW TOLNEW: Helping each other to learn
Introduction to an Indigenous world of learning and teaching through hands-on practical activities integrated with theoretical and academic goals. Experiences in the principles of traditional Indigenous ways of teaching and learning such as mentorship and apprenticeship. Respectful practice, community engagement and personal responsibility help learners develop insight into Indigenous pedagogy while working alongside community knowledge keepers, elders and artists.

September - December 2024 – online
IED 376 – Indigenous Literature for the Classroom
An examination of works by Indigenous authors for use in K-12 classrooms. Genres may include poetry, drama, stories, history, fiction, essays and autobiography. An analysis of the roles literature plays in shaping and reflecting Indigenous histories, identities, and communities.

IED 377 – Indigenous Voices through Video, Audio and Film
Builds understanding of diverse Indigenous identities, experiences, and worldviews, including lands, languages and cultures through video, audio and film media by Indigenous artists.

January - April 2025 – online
IED 378 – Educators Working Towards Reconciliation as Allies and Activists
An exploration of relational ways of working meaningfully and appropriately as Indigenous and settler peoples with an emphasis on how to become agents of positive educational and social change guided by the calls to action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada.

IED 379 – Indigenous Environmental Activism and Education
An exploration of Indigenous worldviews as a critical means to an ecologically sustainable future. Introduces various schools of environmental thought with a focus on Indigenous relationships with land and examples of impactful action.

July 2025 – on-campus intensive
IED 372 – Indigenous Epistemologies
An exploration of Indigenous knowledge and practices of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit people. Discussion topics include: Indigenous worldviews, frameworks, methodologies, and protocols that validate Indigenous ways of being and living, and the appreciation of the mental, spiritual, physical, and emotional aspects of Indigenous knowledge.

IED 473 – CENENITEL TW TOLNEW: Helping each other to learn
Introduction to an Indigenous world of learning and teaching through hands-on practical activities integrated with theoretical and academic goals. Experiences in the principles of traditional Indigenous ways of teaching and learning such as mentorship and apprenticeship. Respectful practice, community engagement and personal responsibility help learners develop insight into Indigenous pedagogy while working alongside community knowledge keepers, elders and artists.

IED 476 – Foundations of Decolonization
A critical exploration of the relationship between settler and colonial identities in Canada. Students examine and engage settler colonial structures to identify ways to decolonize at individual and institutional levels.