

## **GLS 812: Science and Human Values: Indigenous Ways of Knowing Science**

Instructor: Dr. Eldon Yellowhorn    Office: RBC 8204    Email: [ecy@sfu.ca](mailto:ecy@sfu.ca)  
Term: Summer 2026 (1263)

Seminar times: Wednesdays, 6:30 PM–9:20 PM, May 11–August 10, Online.

### **Course Description:**

Students learn about the issues that Indigenous people encounter as they assert their right to manage their customary knowledge in a modern world system. Course content will be delivered via lecture and will examine the worldviews that informed the creators of this folklore and how we can understand it through a contemporary lens. Discussion will consider the circumstances at the intersection of tradition and modernity will include ethnoastronomy and the big bang theory, cognitive geography and cyberspace, intellectual property and indigenous rights, language revitalization and artificial intelligence, and orality and social media. Lectures will examine the tension created by ongoing changes to these subjects as outside pressures affect long-established customs. Assignments will consider the personal and public, as well as the local and global, aspects of practicing, protecting, and benefitting from ancient knowledge. Class discussion will consider the presentation of traditional knowledge as a personal pastime and a communal experience.

### **Book Report Required Reading:**

Kheraj, Sean. 2013. *Inventing Stanley Park: An environmental history*. UBC Press, Vancouver. 271 pp.

### **Grade Distribution:**

Assignment 1	10%
Assignment 2	10%
Assignment 3	10%
Assignment 4	10%
Book Club	20%
Book Report	20%
Research Report	20%
Total	100%