

## Coast Salish Histories

FNST 222 – Selected Topics in First Nations Studies: Wednesdays, 2:30-5:20; SWH 9095

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Office hours: Tuesdays, 2:30-4:30, SWH 9083

“SFU’s Burnaby campus is situated on the traditional, ancestral, unceded territories of four Coast Salish nations: the Squamish (Sk̓w̓x̓wú7mesh Úxwumixw), Tsleil-Waututh (səlilwətaʔɬ), Musqueam (xʷməθkʷəy̓əm), and Kwikwetlem peoples.”

While many of us have heard this phrase before, some of us may not really understand what it means, or have in-depth knowledge of Coast Salish histories and cultures. This class seeks to provide an introduction to Coast Salish communities on Vancouver Island, the mainland, and on both sides of the Canada-US border. We will learn from directly from Coast Salish individuals and academics, and the class will incorporate place-based learning experiences. Though the class is historically-minded, we will focus not just on historical documents, but also on oral history and tradition, archaeology, cultural heritage, language, and artwork as sources for our learning.



Over the course of the semester, students will:

- acquire knowledge about shifts in Coast Salish histories from origins in time immemorial, through to contemporary moments, enabling students to develop a deep appreciation for how the past is still very much present in Coast Salish communities.
- identify and discuss similarities and differences in historical experiences of Coast Salish nations, seeking to understand connections and divergences between these groups.
- cultivate a deep understanding of their own relationship to Coast Salish peoples and territories by considering their own connections to the histories we focus on in the course.

Course readings are available on Canvas.

Note: the class includes a Halq'eméylem place names tour in the Fraser Valley on June 6, 2018, which will take most of the day (8am-5pm).