While we have had to close our doors to in-person programming for the past two years, we have embraced online learning and done our best to adapt to the changing realities of life on Haida Gwaii and beyond. Working with our wonderful instructors, many of our courses have been redesigned and are offered fully online.

We have missed the usual hustle and bustle of our classrooms and welcoming new students to Haida Gwaii, although going online has allowed us to connect with a diversity of learners from across the world while still feeling a sense of close community.

With abundance of creativity, our team has developed content to ground these courses within local context, despite students not physically being on-island.

Together we have been pre-recording guest lectures and field trips, zooming educators into virtual classrooms in real-time, and carefully curating course materials and resources that showcase Haida Gwaii. We would like to acknowledge our intrepid community partners who worked with us to create these incredible experiences for our online learners. Thank you for your contributions!

Moving online has made our courses more accessible to many students, who may not otherwise be able to participate in a full semester-long program, in-person. We have had a mix of people including local residents, as well as those from further corners of Canada, and beyond, as far away as China and Colombia.

We hope that you have been well in this time since our last communication. Haawa for doing your part to keep Haida Gwaii safe! We are looking forward to the brightness of spring and hopefully, seeing more of you around, in person. Dəm̓xan hla agan Ḵ̓ing guu look after yourselves.
Partaking in an online course with the Haida Gwaii institute has allowed me as a student to feel a connection to life in Haida Gwaii without being there physically. Through learning online about case studies and accomplishments in marine conservation in Haida Gwaii, I am able to re-live the time I spent on the archipelago, and re-connect with the community there. Meeting instructors teaching from Haida Gwaii offers a unique learning experience, even remotely."

– Alanna Wyllie, online student and participant in the Haida Gwaii Semester in Natural Resource Studies 2020

Some of the undergraduate course we have offered online in the past year, include:

- Marine Conservation in BC instructed by Dr. Lais Chaves
- Ecosystem Based Management instructed by Meghan Cross & Dr. Hilary Thorpe
- Language and Cultural Continuity instructed by Jaskwaan Bedard
- Ocean People, Culture and Tradition instructed by Gid Yahk’ii Sean Young
- Intro to Resilience Theory in Community instructed by Dr. Dan McCarthy & Dr. Michele Lee Moore
- Fisheries Co-Management of the North Pacific Coast instructed by Dr. Sarah Harper
- First Nations Governance and Natural Resource Management instructed by Jaad Gudjihlijiwap Michaela McGuire
- Ecological Economics instructed by Dr. Katie Kish
- ReStorying History: Indigenous Perspectives instructed by Jaskwaan Bedard

Nearly one third of our course calendar is now available online and we plan to continue offering these courses even after our in-person programming resumes.

Interested in registering? Reach out!
Resuming In-Person Programming

Looking ahead, we are hopeful to return to our in-person programming beginning this May, when we offer our *Haida Gwaii Summer Session in Plants, People and Place* and resuming our fall and winter programming following that.

We closely follow direction from the Council of the Haida Nation, local Emergency Operations Centres, and the most current Provincial Health Office Orders to determine how we will safely return to our in-person model.

We have implemented and follow UBC’s *Covid-19 Safety Plan for Learning Spaces*. This safety plan was developed using the BC Restart Plan, Provincial Health Office Orders, Post-Secondary Go-Forward Guidelines, and WorkSafeBC as regulatory context. To review this safety plan in full, please visit our website [hginstitute.ca](http://hginstitute.ca).

We also embrace the *Haida Gwaii Pledge* and ask all incoming students and instructors to join us in respecting Haida Gwaii and Haida ways of being during their stay. This pledge requires that all visitors to Haida Territory are to be fully vaccinated.

If any of these leadership bodies decide it is unsafe to return to our in-person programming, we will heed their advice without hesitation. This may involve postponing or cancelling programs or events at any time.

Student Housing Callout

More HGI Students will be arriving on Haida Gwaii as we resume our in-person programming!

Do you have a furnished room, apartment, cabin, or house available for rent in Daajing Giids Queen Charlotte or Hlgaagilda Skidegate this coming May and June?

Please reach out to Emily Sky Collins (emilysky.collins@ubc.ca or 250 559 7885 x 602) to learn about listing your rental space with our incoming students.

“I was honoured to have the opportunity to take the Language and Cultural Continuity course this fall with Jaskwaan Bedard. Jaskwaan’s delivery of the curriculum was completely centred on an Indigenous world view and the four Haida Values. While there was consistent discussion and knowledge sharing of the ongoing and harmful impacts of a perpetual colonial narrative, the content also focused on domains of survival and resilience in terms of language revitalization, reclamation and connection to culture. This perspective of Indigenous language vitality through the celebration of living and strength-based initiatives was embedded in all of the readings, videos and speakers. I work in the health field on Haida Gwaii and there may not be an obvious link between the revitalization and reclamation of Indigenous Languages to the care I provide for families on the islands. However, I was taught that everything is connected, and the knowledge shared by Jaskwaan during this course has deeply impacted my work.”

- Shannon Greenwood, online student and long time resident of Haida Gwaii
In addition to our in-person programming, we will also continue to offer several online undergraduate courses in weekly, synchronous classes. Registration will open soon through our website and we encourage interested residents of Haida Gwaii to register, or reach out with any questions.

**Ecological Economics**, May 4 – June 30, 2022

The emerging discipline of ecological economics has been influenced by the intersection of political, economic, and ecological systems. This course will be divided into two parts: the first part will look at the underlying philosophy and principles of ecological economics and basic concepts such as economic low-growth, ecosystem services, and valuation of nature. The course will have students question current measure of 'progress' comparing conventional measure (of wealth and growth) with those that incorporate environmental components – both conceptually and in policy settings, including on Haida Gwaii. The second part of the course will shift focus to the implications of a radical reorientation of political economy.

**Language & Cultural Continuity**, July 4 – August 11, 2022

This course explores language as a means of examining culture and cultural continuity, in Haida Gwaii and throughout colonized spaces, spanning ancient times to the present. Students will explore methods of knowledge translation and transmission; and how cultural knowledge, values, and worldviews are embedded in language and other forms of communication and expression. Using Xaad Kil - the Old Massett dialect of the Haida language - as a framing device, students will explore the integral connections between language, culture, history, land, health and resilience. Specific topics that will be examined throughout the course include the importance of oral histories; Indigenous political, social and economic systems; repatriation, and language as a tool for cultural resurgence. Ancestral knowledge contained within languages serves as a connective thread woven throughout history: delivering lessons about strength, resurgence, and resilience through stories, cultural teaching, and songs. This course is for Indigenous and non-Indigenous students to better understand the importance of language and culture in one’s own identity and understanding of

**Fisheries Co-Management of the North Pacific Coast**, September 6 – December 7, 2022

Over the last two decades there has been a shift in the governance and management structures of fisheries that has given way to a broader approach that recognizes the participation of marine resource users whether it be cultural, commercial, or recreational, in shared-decision making. Through this process co-management is now understood as involving the people closest to the resource in the design, implementation, and monitoring of management measures. Marine resource users are now empowered to become active members of the management group, with rights and responsibilities, by working in partnership with governments. In the North Pacific Coast these users are represented by 17 First Nations, along with the Province of BC and the Government of Canada. Through local guest speakers, this course offers perspectives on traditional fisheries and marine management by the Haida Nation within Haida territorial waters as well as the local settler fishing community of Haida Gwaii, insights from other Indigenous groups along the coast, and from representatives of the provincial and federal governments.

**Ocean People, Culture and Tradition**, September 6 – December 7, 2022

The Haida people have lived within the marine environment since time immemorial. This course will be an in-depth study of tradition Haida culture from the pre-contact era before 1774 to modern day 21st century Haida culture. The focus of course learning will be how the Haida people and culture are intricately related to their marine environment; how they were sustained by traditional marine resources, how they managed them, and how that management has changed over time. Important course topics include Haida oral histories, ceremonial practices, and unique world views as they pertain to marine resource management.
HGI and UBC Faculty of Forestry have been working together to create a micro-credential certificate program which will include three professional development courses. In December 2021, we received the good news that HGI’s micro-credential certificate proposal was one of three proposals recommended by the University of British Columbia to the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training and will be funded for the development and implementation of the three courses to be offered in 2022. This micro-certificate program is focused on skills and competencies aligned with the gaps and needs that have been identified by organizations, governments, industry, and professionals in the field of land and natural resource management.

The topics for the courses that have been selected for this program were the result of discussions with community partners, such as the Council of the Haida Nation, BC Ministry of Forest Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development and Gwaii Haanas Parks Canada - Government of Canada; and the content is based on the needs of their agencies locally, provincially and nationally.

HGI has already successfully developed and delivered versions of two of the professional development courses that will be adapted to the new micro-credential certificate program. The first course, *Navigating Canadian Law and Policy Regarding Indigenous Peoples*, was piloted in October 2020. HGI’s *Co-Management* course has been offered twice, once in February 2021, and a second offering of the course took place in September 2021. A third course is currently being developed in the subject area of creating change in complex systems.

Haida artist Iljuuwaas Tyson Brown was hired to create designs for each of our Professional Development courses offered this past year, to represent the learning that took place within the cohorts.

These are the beautiful designs that Iljuuwaas created. Each participant was gifted a copy of the print as a way to commemorate their experience and lessons from the course.

Stay tuned for more details and course dates. Visit our website, follow us on social media, or get in touch via email at hg.institute@ubc.ca
And our team has changed, too! We have welcomed new members and said goodbye to others. This exchange has been bittersweet; we wish everyone well on their journeys and are grateful to the new ideas and energy these shifts have sparked.

- Haawa to Laura Bishop for her long-held role as Program Coordinator. For many years, Laura led students on adventurous, island-wide field trips and supported them closely throughout all aspects of our programming. Students often felt a quick connection to Laura and many have remained in touch with her long after their programs ended. Wishing Laura (and Wally dog) the best on their next adventure!

- Haawa to Kate Trueland Program Assistant and Alessandra Cross-Lusignan Program Coordinator, for their contributions to HGI over the past year. Kate and Alessandra have both moved on but we value their time with us and are appreciative of what they brought to our work and team, especially as we pivoted programming to a new, online landscape.

- Haawa also to Jaad Gudjihiwwih Michaela McGuire who joined our team on a short, project based term. Michaela also joined our teaching team to instruct our First Nations Governance and Natural Resource Management online course. Michaela is currently pursuing her PhD at Simon Fraser University’s School of Criminology.

- Welcome to Jaad Aahlangu K’uuyangs Verica Yovanovich, our newest team member and Program Coordinator! Verica brings with her a wealth of experience from her work at XaaydaQa Dlaang Society Haida Wellness Society and Skidegate Health Centre. Verica is excited to use her life experiences, knowledge, connection to the land and people, to ensure the best learning opportunities for our students.

- Welcome back to Emily Sky Collins, our Operations Manager, who is returning from a long maternity leave. She is looking forward to reconnecting with instructors, community educators and incoming students, as well as gushing about her little kid to anyone that will listen.

- And a big haawa to K’iinuwaas Carrie Anne Vanderhoop, Indigenous and Community Initiatives Manager; Deb Pearson, Finance and Administration Manager; and Carlos Ormond, Director for their steady and continued work with HGI.

A note on Haida Language

HGI is situated on the ancestral, traditional and unceded territory of the Haida Nation. This land acknowledgement, and iterations of it, have been used since our inception. But what does it mean to acknowledge the land you occupy? HGI believes that action is a key piece. We actively work to champion Indigenous voices, to work with local Indigenous businesses and partners, to respect the lands and waters, and to encourage the use of the Haida Language.

Many of our staff, instructors, community educators, and curriculum developers work to integrate Xaad Kil and Xaayda Kil into their work. We are grateful to Xaad Kil Née Haida Language Office and HiGaagilda Xaayda Kil Naay Skidegate Haida Immersion Program, whose incredible resources we use often and whose members we call on from time to time, for extra insight.

We hope for the Haida Language to continue being represented in our discussions and in our print materials, particularly in acknowledging people and places with respect, but also to challenge our own team in expanding our language proficiency! We will keep asking ourselves: Aan gwa gina da sk’aadga are you learning something here?