

# Native Learners/Native Leaders

North West Indian College  
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# Reflective Teachers

*Who am I as an instructor:*

- Literacy and teaching influences
- Family and other important influences
  - Education experiences that affect us
  - Teaching goals

Who are our students, what do we understand about them?

- How much work and discussion should they be able to handle?
- How excited should they be to be here, and how should they show it?
- How should they manage time – work, homework, listening and the rest of their lives?

# Who are we as models?



- What does my use of language, my health, my communication, my class time practices convey to others about how important they are and learning is?
- Am I ultimately a good model – would I want me for a teacher, and if not, where can I get some help?

“As a tribal college community, we no longer need to prove to the outside that the work here is good, we have to SHOW our own people, our own community members that we are models, the leaders of reliability with *their* information. As we have been taught, we show respect, we show humility, we show that we don’t know more than everyone else on a subject, and we show endurance in the face of those who tell us, Native or not, that we are “not grad school or not tribal knowledge material yet.”

Our strength is in  
our *pursuit* of local  
knowledge, our  
growth as teachers

