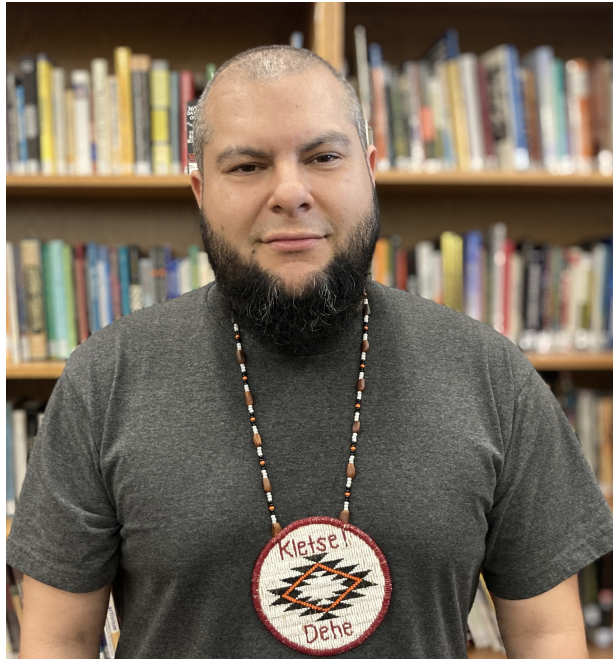


STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Anthony Flores, Kletsel Dehe Wintun Nation, Puhtwin peoples, and graduating fall 2025



“While attending public schools K-12 the only time I learned about Native peoples was in the past as a static peoples, and covered briefly by the non-Native teachers. Some of the history of Native peoples was inaccurately taught in the school, especially the mission period in California. I chose to major in Native American Studies (NAS) because of its interdisciplinary focus on Native peoples. Native peoples have never had static societies. We have adapted to changes to ecological, social, and political environments. The NAS program at Sac State has Native professors! Native professors are important because it shows that Sac State values the foundation of Ethnic Studies, which is representation of ethnic groups at the professor level.”



SPOTLIGHT

Anthony Flores has worked in tribal cultural resource management, for Puhtwin Tribes, for fifteen years. He was a third-generation tribal monitor on construction sites where an impact to sacred sites was a high chance. Anthony valued the importance of using cultural protocols and medicine to keep himself protected while out on the sacred sites. In a management role he exercised the Tribal government's sovereignty in consultation with federal, state, and local governments, and private entities when tribal cultural resources were impacted by a project. At times his recommendations would be counter to the project proponents, but he would explain the tribal significance and tribal stance in a respectful manner. Even though their goals may have been different, communication was key to understanding the significance of a project, by all parties. He has had the pleasure of working with other Tribes as well with the common goal of protecting cultural sites. Anthony was a presenter on tribal cultural resource management for the California Tribal College's Tribal Leadership and Governance certificate program in 2015. Anthony is also a Puhtwin language learner and an advocate for Native languages continuance and revitalization.

Anthony will graduate Fall 2025, with a Bachelor of Arts in Ethnic Studies, concentration in Native American Studies with a minor in History. His paternal grandparents were survivors of the Indian Boarding School system and it has been his goal to earn his BA at the settler colonial institution of academia to extract knowledge so he can give back to the Native community. Anthony will continue to work in Indian County.

Anthony enjoys going to Native events, ceremony, Big Times, and Pow Wows. He is the father of Alexander Flores, Chishkaleh Flores, and Suzette Smith.