



SOU Land Acknowledgment

In our desire for collective healing and partnership, we offer this Acknowledgment of Indigenous peoples and their connections to the land that Southern Oregon University occupies. This Acknowledgement was developed in conversation between Grand Ronde Tribal staff, Siletz Tribal staff, and Native American Programs faculty and staff at Southern Oregon University; it continues to be a living statement through this ongoing partnership.

This Land Acknowledgment may not be altered from this version, as changes will only occur in conversations with our partners.

We [you may say I or the name of a program/department] want to take this moment to acknowledge that Southern Oregon University is located within the ancestral homelands of the Shasta, Takelma, and Latgawa peoples who lived here since time immemorial. These Tribes were displaced during rapid Euro-American colonization, the Gold Rush, and armed conflict between 1851 and 1856. In the 1850s, discovery of gold and settlement brought thousands of Euro-Americans to their lands, leading to warfare, epidemics, starvation, and villages being burned. In 1853 the first of several treaties were signed, confederating these Tribes and others together - who would then be referred to as the Rogue River Tribe. These treaties ceded most of their homelands to the United States, and in return they were guaranteed a permanent homeland reserved for them. At the end of the Rogue River Wars in 1856, these Tribes and many other Tribes from western Oregon were removed to the Siletz Reservation and the Grand Ronde Reservation. Today, the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Community of Oregon (<https://www.grandronde.org>) and the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians (<http://www.ctsi.nsn.us/>) are living descendants of the Takelma, Shasta, and Latgawa peoples of this area. We [you may say I or the name of a program/department] encourage YOU to learn about the land you reside on, and to join us in advocating for the inherent sovereignty of Indigenous people.