

6 things to recognize as ways to show Respect when entering Indigenous spaces

- Listen and immerse yourself in this experience. Do not talk or try to constantly engage in discussions while one is presenting unless participation is requested. Listen and immerse yourself in the form of knowledge being shared. The Indigenous classroom provokes one to seek their own answer to the questions being presented by critically thinking based on one's experiences that allows us to foster an appreciation and respect for the complexity of our surrounds recognizing the reciprocal relationship we as human need.
- Science tells us Tribal peoples have existed in what we now call the United States for thousands of years before the first constitution of the United States of America was created. Today there are 574 Federally Recognized Tribal Nations in the United States and 60+ state recognized Tribes. Each Tribe is a sovereign nation with elected leadership, jurisdiction over their lands, the power to create laws with jurisdiction over their lands including the right to determine citizenship.
- We are all visitors to another place outside of the community we live. When you are in another's home or community we show respect by recognizing and accepting the ways or protocols of their peoples and homelands, even if it differs from our own.
- Don't try to compare the validity of the Indigenous knowledge you're experiencing to that of western knowledge. They are two separate ways of understanding; Two perspectives or concepts applied to the same subject matter. Always come willing to change your own personal expectations and be open to respect, and you may see this as adapt to the new situation and environment. We are fortunate to have the freedom and opportunity to experience something and perhaps profound that experience provides us growth as humans and fosters a greater appreciation for another culture.
- The cultural clothing displayed by each tribal Nations must Never be referred to as a costume. This is considered disrespectful. Tribal Nations are a living culture of peoples. Each is distinct and the tribal clothing they display reflects their land environment and unique identity characteristics. The foundational stories of creation of Tribal Nations have remained the same for time immemorial but the textiles used to weave the story of each living culture continues to evolve and adapt to reflect the current generation of artists and storytellers.
- Here in your community, Lawrence, KS is Haskell Indian Nations University was created in 1884 as the United States Training & Industrial school for Indians. It is the first congressionally funded Indian boarding school in the Nation and remains

the oldest government boarding school to become fully accredited as a university.