Learning Outcomes

- More aware of U.S.-Native history and its impact on current policies
- Became a more thoughtful communicator
- Learning to listen
- Ability to empathize with every side

What is NAGPRA?
The Native American Grave Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) of 1990 requires all culturally affiliated Native American remains and funerary objects in the possession of federally funded 'museums' to the group they are believed to have originated from.

WHAT do we do?
Consult with Native American groups to return the Native American remains housed at OSU to their closest living culture group.

WHY do what we do?
We repatriate human remains and their funerary objects not only to comply with NAGPRA, but because OSU sees the benefit in it. This extends good will and ultimately, builds relationships with local tribes. Cutting Native Americans out of the picture is our past; it doesn’t have to be our future.

Incoming Goals:
- Communicate professionally
- Learn about database entry
- Better understand the relationship between Native groups and the U.S. gov’t

History
Since first contact, looters and archaeologists have taken human remains and objects from Native American graves. In the name of science or profit these stolen items and people were sold to museums and private collections the country over. Today there are an estimated 100,000+ Native people and funerary objects that have yet to be returned. Many never will be.

Best Professional Development Session?
Code-Switching! I spoke with tribal members solely over phone or e-mail. Without physical cues, or a guaranteed shared cultural understanding, I repeatedly had to question the meanings how I may be interpreted.

Native American Grave Protection and Repatriation
By Amelia Allee