

From [REDACTED] Tue Jan 4 15:40:59 2022  
Date: Tue, 4 Jan 2022 15:40:46 -0800  
From: Magdalena Balazinska [REDACTED]  
To: Stuart Reges [REDACTED]  
Cc: karentb [REDACTED], DANIEL M. RATNER [REDACTED],  
Philip J. Reid [REDACTED]  
Subject: Land acknowledgment statement in your course syllabus

Hi Stuart,

I ask that you remove the "land acknowledgment" statement from your course syllabus immediately. It is offensive and it creates a toxic environment in your course, which is a required course in our major.

You are welcome to voice your opinion and opposition to land acknowledgments, as you have, in other settings. The current statement in your course syllabus is inappropriate and must be removed.

For context, I'm attaching the course syllabus that I just downloaded from your course website.

regards,  
magda

[ Part 2, Application/PDF (Name: "CSE143-syllabus-Winter2022.pdf")  
93 ]  
[ KB. ]  
[ Unable to print this part. ]

From [REDACTED] Tue Jan 4 16:57:00 2022  
Date: Tue, 4 Jan 2022 16:56:59 -0800 (PST)  
From: Stuart Reges [REDACTED]  
To: Magdalena Balazinska [REDACTED]  
Cc: karentb [REDACTED], DANIEL M. RATNER [REDACTED],  
Philip J. Reid [REDACTED]  
Subject: Re: Land acknowledgment statement in your course syllabus

I'm disappointed that you did not discuss this with me last month when I emailed the faculty mailing list and said that I planned to include my version of the land acknowledgment on my winter syllabus for cse143.  
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thought it was best to get feedback before the quarter began. I mentioned that it is listed as a best practice on our diversity resource page. You had said that you didn't want to have any email discussion of it. I said that I would be happy to discuss it in person with anyone who was interested and I even offered to help organize a meeting, but nobody responded.

Here's the problem that I have. I have been encouraged to include a land acknowledgment. I have done that. Now you want me to remove it because you find it offensive. I think you need to have a consistent policy on this. Other CSE instructors have included land acknowledgments. Are you asking them to remove theirs as well? If not, then I don't understand the justification for treating me differently because I have a different viewpoint on this subject.

It isn't really possible to eliminate it at this point. The syllabus is shown in the first recorded lecture for the course. So I'm going to leave it in place for now. As I said, I would be happy to discuss this in person with you or anyone else who wants to participate.

--Stuart

On Tue, 4 Jan 2022, Magdalena Balazinska wrote:

> Hi Stuart,  
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From [REDACTED] Tue Jan 4 17:04:08 2022  
Date: Tue, 4 Jan 2022 17:03:54 -0800  
From: Magdalena Balazinska [REDACTED]  
To: Stuart Reges [REDACTED]  
Cc: karentb [REDACTED], DANIEL M. RATNER [REDACTED],  
Philip J. Reid [REDACTED]  
Subject: Re: Land acknowledgment statement in your course syllabus

Dear Stuart,

I acknowledge your view point on land acknowledgments. I'm sorry if I missed that you actually planned to include this offensive statement in your course syllabus this quarter. I recall that you wanted to discuss land acknowledgments.

An in person discussion with colleagues is certainly a good place to have these conversations.

I'm not asking you to change the recording of your first lecture. I'm asking you to change the pdf of the course syllabus that is posted on the course website.

thanks,  
magda

On Tue, Jan 4, 2022 at 4:57 PM Stuart Reges [REDACTED] wrote:

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From [REDACTED] Tue Jan 4 17:48:46 2022  
Date: Tue, 4 Jan 2022 17:48:46 -0800 (PST)  
From: Stuart Reges [REDACTED]  
To: Magdalena Balazinska [REDACTED]  
Cc: karentb [REDACTED], DANIEL M. RATNER [REDACTED],  
Philip J. Reid [REDACTED]  
Subject: Re: Land acknowledgment statement in your course syllabus

You haven't addressed the issue of consistency. If you instruct all of the winter CSE instructors to remove any land acknowledgment from their syllabus then I will comply. But if you are asking me and only me to remove my land acknowledgment, then the answer is no.

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On Tue, 4 Jan 2022, Magdalena Balazinska wrote:

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From [redacted] Tue Jan 4 17:52:16 2022  
Date: Tue, 4 Jan 2022 17:52:01 -0800  
From: Magdalena Balazinska [redacted]  
To: Stuart Reges [redacted]  
Cc: karentb [redacted], DANIEL M. RATNER [redacted],  
Philip J. Reid [redacted]  
Subject: Re: Land acknowledgment statement in your course syllabus

Dear Stuart,

I will ask any instructor who uses a land acknowledgment other than the UW land acknowledgment to remove or replace it.

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On Tue, Jan 4, 2022 at 5:48 PM Stuart Reges [redacted] wrote:

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From: Stuart Reges [REDACTED]  
To: Magdalena Balazinska [REDACTED]  
Cc: karentb [REDACTED], DANIEL M. RATNER [REDACTED],  
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Subject: Re: Land acknowledgment statement in your course syllabus

There is no UW land acknowledgment as far as I know.

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Subject: Re: Land acknowledgment statement in your course syllabus

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The statements you used are offensive and students have raised complaints. I ask you to please update your syllabus. Until then, I have asked our IT staff to take the syllabus down. I request that you do not post the original version of your syllabus in any form.

Separately, if you would like to bring up your concerns about land acknowledgments with the UW, I'm sure we can help you find the right people to talk to.

thanks,  
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On Tue, Jan 4, 2022 at 6:11 PM Stuart Reges [REDACTED] wrote:

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I'll say again that if you tell all winter instructors that they must remove any land acknowledgment, then I will comply.

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On Tue, 4 Jan 2022, Magdalena Balazinska wrote:

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> > > > You are welcome to voice your opinion  
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your CSE143 syllabus is causing a disruption to instruction in your class and because it is not related to the course content, it needs to be removed. Since you are not willing to make the change yourself, I have removed that section from the syllabus. I have also asked our IT team to update the syllabus on your course website.

It goes without saying that you have the right to have discussions about land acknowledgements, but we ask that you please take those discussions outside of your classroom.

I'm going to email your class to explain the change. In that email, I will reassure the students that everyone in your class should expect to be treated fairly, as this is a concern that students have raised. I will also provide links to standard resources in case a student wants to raise any additional concerns.

Regards,

Magda

On Tue, Jan 4, 2022 at 7:06 PM Magdalena Balazinska

  
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Date: Wed, 5 Jan 2022 21:31:18 -0800 (PST)  
From: Stuart Reges [REDACTED]  
To: Magdalena Balazinska [REDACTED]  
Cc: karentb [REDACTED], DANIEL M. RATNER [REDACTED],  
Philip J. Reid [REDACTED]  
Subject: Re: Land acknowledgment statement in your course syllabus

This is a totally inappropriate action on your part. You have silenced me while not silencing others because you don't approve of my political beliefs. That is a violation of my first amendment rights. I will definitely be telling people about this and exploring options for how to challenge this violation of my free speech rights.

--Stuart

On Wed, 5 Jan 2022, Magdalena Balazinska wrote:

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> CSE143 syllabus is causing a disruption to instruction in your class and  
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> Since you are not willing to make the change yourself, I have removed that  
> section from the syllabus. I have also asked our IT team to update the  
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