

Land and Kinship in Indigenous Environmental and Health Science

Land and kinship with land are often seen at the center of Indigenous ways of knowing and well-being. This centering of land and kinship with land also brings together Indigenous environmental and health science, as environmental and individual or collective well-being are connected through the bounded space of land as kinship and the operational framework of maintaining kinship and kinship reciprocity in both environmental and human well-being. This talk will discuss some important features of Indigenous environmental and health sciences that both epistemically and practically are centered in land and kinship with land through what Vine Deloria Jr. calls an “intimate knowing relationship” through land-as-kinship. Finally, this talk will discuss some of the implications of these features of Indigenous environmental and health sciences for understanding science more broadly as well as for science research and science education.

Brian Burkhart (Cherokee)
Director of Native Nations Center
Associate Professor of Philosophy
Native American Studies Affiliate
University of Oklahoma