CULTURAL CENTERS

Portland State has three spaces officially considered its Cultural Centers: La Casa Latina, the Multicultural Center, and the Native American Student and Community Center. These centers are open to ALL students, regardless of background. The Cultural Centers create a student-centered inclusive environment that enriches the university experience by honoring diversity, exploring social justice issues, celebrating cultural traditions, and fostering student identities, success, and leadership.

RESOURCE CENTERS

There are many resource centers on campus designed to help students navigate some of the challenges associated with succeeding at a large educational institution. Resource centers are there to help. They include the Women’s Resource Center, Veteran’s Resource Center, Queer Resource Center, Disability Resource Center, and the Resource Center for Students with Children. These centers are also excellent places to learn about the many different communities represented on campus and beyond.

1. Smith Memorial Student Union
2. The Finnish Room
3. School of Gender, Race & Nations
4. Women’s Resource Center
5. Oak Savanna
6. Walk of the Heroines
7. Native American Center
8. International Student Lounge

Follow this self-guided tour to learn about cultural centers & resources at PSU
Welcome! This self-guided tour will take you to many of the cultural centers and resources on our campus.

At Portland State, sustainability is an important part of who we are and what we do. It’s about recognizing the interconnectedness of social, economic, and environmental systems, and making decisions today that do not irreversibly constrain future generations. Equity is an essential component of sustainability. This map aims to increase knowledge of the resources on campus that celebrate and support various aspects of culture and promote a more equitable campus, community, and world.

1. Smith Memorial Student Union
   SW BROADWAY AND HARRISON
   Smith is a hub of student activity and is home to many of PSU’s cultural resources and student organizations.

2. Finnish Room
   CRAPER HALL
   Room 124 | finnishroom@pdx.edu
   Since 1939, the Finnish Room has served as the hub for the promotion of Scandinavian culture on campus. It is host to numerous events highlighting Scandinavian history, culture, art, languages, and current events. The space was constructed with the intention of capturing “the essence of Finland.” Granite baseboards, birch paneling, and woven matting and furniture were imported from Finland and installed by local Finnish craftsmen.

3. School of Gender, Race, and Nations
   EXTENDED STUDIES BUILDING (XSB)
   Suite 150 | www.pdx.edu/gender-race-nations
   The School of Gender, Race, and Nations offers courses that cross all four specialty areas.

4. Women’s Resource Center (WRC)
   MONTGOMERY HALL
   Basement | www.pdx.edu/wrc
   The Women’s Resource Center advocates for the best educational and campus experience for all members of our community by advancing social justice and working towards a safe and healthy campus environment. WRC offers programs in interpersonal violence, leadership in action, and community.

5. Oak Savanna
   SW 11TH AND MONTGOMERY
   In 2012, the PSU Oak Savanna—a lightly forested grassland and one of the rarest plant communities in the world—was restored on the PSU campus by a group of dedicated students. Traditionally, Oak Savannas were sustainably maintained by Native Americans to provide areas for plant harvesting and shelter for game animals. The PSU Oak Savanna also serves as an outdoor learning lab and space for community gatherings.

6. Walk of the Heroines
   SW 11TH AND HARRISON
   www.pdx.edu/wrc
   The Walk of the Heroines honors the women who have made a difference in our lives. Use this site to learn more about these women and the common threads that unite them across time, place, and culture.

7. Native American Student and Community Center (NASCC)
   SW BROADWAY AND JACKSON
   www.pdx.edu/dmss/nascc
   The mission of the Native American Student and Community Center is to provide a “cultural home” where Native American, Alaskan Native, and Pacific Islander students connect to other students, faculty, staff, and community members. At the Center, students may build community, receive assistance in support of their academic goals, perform traditional ceremonies, and explore and develop cultural identities and intercultural alliances. Completed in 2004, the architectural details of the building were designed to incorporate symbolism associated with Indigenous cultures. Please also enjoy the rooftop native plant living garden.

8. International Student Lounge
   EAST HALL
   Room 122 | Intl-life@pdx.edu
   The International Student Lounge is a great place to study or relax while enjoying free coffee or tea. There is a microwave, refrigerator, and lounge specifically for students with children.

This tour brought to you by:
Student Sustainability Center
Institute for Sustainable Solutions
Campus Sustainability Office

To get to any of these buildings, please see our interactive campus map on our website.