

About Us

Sinte Gleska University was founded in 1970. It has been the leading educational institution among tribal colleges and universities for many years. SGU is the only tribal college to offer master's degrees in Education, Human Services and Business.



photo by Tom Frederick

SGU is among the few tribal universities in the nation with its own bison ranch and herd, with which the University is leading the nation in research centering on bison, traditional Lakota buffalo ceremonies, curriculum development and sustainable, culturally-appropriate and environmentally-safe economic development.



photo by Tom Frederick

The Ranch

We welcome visitors from all over the world each year to the University and the Ranch. We are glad to show you our campus and ranch with a tour by appointment.

Bookstore & Gift Shop

We encourage you to browse and shop in the SGU Bookstore & Gift Shop on the University's Main Campus. We offer many Lakota-made items and sell Bison Jerky produced from the SGU herd, one of our most popular items.



photo by Tom Frederick

Bison Ranch History

A long time dream of SGU President Lionel Bordeaux, the SGU Bison Ranch was founded with 2 buffalo donated by the Montana Education Consortium in 1994. With no place to put the buffalo nor any way to transport them, they remained in Montana, a promise that fueled President Bordeaux's dream as he joked about going to get the buffalo and riding them along Interstate 90 to the Sicangu Homelands 600 miles east.

In 1996, the Rosebud Sioux Tribal Council granted SGU 1,600 acres of land east of Mission, South Dakota, to be used as a new campus and the beginnings of the bison ranch.

The first 14 buffalo were brought to the Ranch in 1999 from Wind Cave National Park in the Black Hills. In 2000, SGU purchased 40 head of buffalo, and in 2002, ranchers donated 131 head of buffalo to the University.

Now comprising a herd of 380 animals on 4500 acres of natural prairie grasslands on the Rosebud Reservation, the SGU Bison Herd is the largest and healthiest on the reservation, providing food for University gatherings, ceremonial animals for ritual and teaching, and hope for economic development for the future.



photo by Tom Frederick



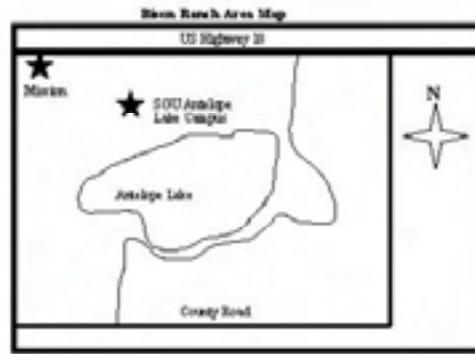
Education

photo by Tom Frederick

Sinte Gleska University provides a model for Indian-controlled education. It is an institution governed by people rooted to the reservation and culture, concerned about the future, and willing to work to see the institution grow. It provides each Lakota person the opportunity to pursue an education and does so in a way that is relevant to career and personal needs. Sinte Gleska University graduates will help determine the future development and direction of the Tribe and its institutions. The mission of Sinte Gleska University is to plan, design, implement and assess post-secondary programs and other education programs uniquely appropriate to the Lakota people in order to facilitate individual development and tribal autonomy.

SGU offers 35 degrees in the areas of Arts & Sciences, Business & Tribal Management, Education, Human Services, Lakota Studies, Institute of Technologies, Fine Arts & Agriculture/Environmental Science. Degrees are available at the certificate, associates, bachelors and masters levels. The University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

photo by Carole Good Shield



Culture

From the earliest times, the Pte Oyate (Buffalo Nation) have provided sustenance to the Lakota Oyate, sacrificing themselves so that their relatives might live.

After the devastating buffalo slaughters of the 19th century, Lakota people were forced to settle on reservations with no access to old hunting grounds or the ability to travel to obtain buffalo, the primary source of housing, food, clothing, tools, and a central ingredient of ceremonial, social and spiritual life. Their way of life suffered, as did their health.

Today the buffalo are returning, slowly, with the help of the Lakota Oyate, prompting a revitalization of culture, ceremonies, needed dietary sustenance, and economic development. With the return of the Pte Oyate, strength is also returning to the Lakota Oyate. It is hoped the knowledge and reciprocal relationship between the two nations can live on, for future generations.

For more info. & tour reservations contact:

SGU Bison Ranch

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SINTE GLESKA UNIVERSITY BISON RANCH



photo by Carole Good Shield

EDUCATION
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
CULTURAL RESTORATION
CEREMONIAL LIFE
ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

