

CELEBRATING OUR

14

YEAR ANNIVERSARY!

2021-22 CAMPUS THEME

# DISAGREEMENT

## Democracy and Disagreement

In order to thrive, democracy requires disagreement. No enforced consensus could ever be confused with a vibrant, if problematic, democracy. But, what happens when disagreement becomes hostility? Worse, perhaps: what happens when people try to expunge disagreement from public discourse? That may be where we find ourselves today, both in the US and in much of the rest of the world. Perhaps, though, the problem lies with us: in order to produce beneficial public actions for a democratic society, disagreement requires “adults in the room.” Politically, the US seems woefully short of adults these days.

*Presenter: Bill Hughes, PhD, Professor of Political Science, Southern Oregon University*

Wednesday, October 20 • 7 pm • SOU Gallery (Student Union) SU 323



## Disagreement and Its role in Contemporary Society

Disagreement is as deep as it is pervasive. In this talk, Professor Lackey will look at the role that disagreement plays in two crucial areas of our lives: online interactions and the criminal legal system. She will show that in both cases, there are important and surprising conclusions that follow about whom we ought to trust.

*Presenter: Jennifer Lackey, PhD, Professor of Philosophy, Northwestern University*

Thursday, October 28 • 7 pm • SOU Science Room 151

## What it Means to Disagree

What can we learn about disagreement by beginning with the word itself? This presentation looks at what historical dictionaries and databases tell us about history and historical use of the words “disagree” and “disagreement” and what we can learn from that history. We delve into the semantics of the words themselves and the ways in which meaning underlies expression. By thinking about the meaning of disagreement, we can better understand what the concept both implies and what it omits. In doing so, we can gain a better understanding of what it means to disagree.

*Presenter: Ed Battistella, PhD, Professor of English, Southern Oregon University*

November 10 • 7 pm • SOU Gallery (Student Union) SU 323