1. Fact Sheet on the Doctrine of Discovery
   https://doctrineofdiscoverymenno.files.wordpress.com/2015/06/dofd_studyguide_handouts.pdf (pages 4-5)

2. Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery: Study Guide
   https://dofdmenno.org/study-guide/

3. “The Doctrine of Discovery: In the Name of Christ” is a 43-minute documentary with three parts:
   - History of the Doctrine of Discovery and basis in Christian theology and scripture
   - Living the Doctrine of Discovery
   - Undoing the Doctrine of Discovery
   https://dofdmenno.org/movie/

4. Five Hundred Years of Injustice: The Legacy of Fifteenth Century Religious Prejudice.
   http://ili.nativeweb.org/sdrm_art.html

5. Religious Communities who have Repudiated the Doctrine of Discovery
   https://doctrineofdiscovery.org/faith-communities/

6. Unlearning the Doctrine of Discovery
   http://thirdway.com/unlearning-doctrine-discovery/
TIPS FOR CREATING AN INDIGENOUS LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT STATEMENT

Key components:

Start with self-reflection. Before starting work on your land acknowledgment statement, reflect on the process:

- Why am I doing this land acknowledgment? (If you’re hoping to inspire others to take action to support Indigenous communities, you’re on the right track. If you’re delivering a land acknowledgment out of guilt or because everyone else is doing it, more self-reflection is in order.)
- What is my end goal? (What do you hope listeners will do after hearing the acknowledgment?)
- When will I have the largest impact? (Think about your timing and audience, specifically.)

Do your homework. Put in the time necessary to research the following topics:

- The Indigenous people to whom, or for whom, the land is/was home.
- The history of the land and any related treaties.
- Tribal names of living Indigenous people from these communities. If you’re presenting on behalf of your work in a certain field, highlight Indigenous people who currently work in that field.
- Indigenous place names and language.
- Correct pronunciation for the names of the Tribes, places, and individuals being used.

Use appropriate language. Don’t sugarcoat the past. Use terms like genocide, ethnic cleansing, stolen land, and forced removal to reflect actions of colonizers.

Use past, present, and future tenses. Indigenous people are still here, and they’re thriving. Don’t treat them as a relic of the past.

- Land acknowledgments shouldn’t be grim.
- They should function as living celebrations of Indigenous communities.

Ask yourself, “How am I leaving Indigenous people in a stronger, more empowered place because of this land acknowledgment?” Focus on the positivity of who Indigenous people are today whether they still reside on that land or not.

Additional factors to consider

Don’t ask an Indigenous person to deliver a “welcome” statement for your organization.

Build real, authentic relationships with Indigenous people.
In addition to normal employment and family obligations, Indigenous people are working to heal their traumas, learn their languages, and support their nations. If you reach out for help, lead the conversation by asking an Indigenous person what you can do for them. Chances are, they’re likely overworked and could use your help.

Compensate Indigenous people for their emotional labor. If you do plan to reach out to an Indigenous person or community for help, compensate them fairly. Too often, Indigenous people are asked to perform emotional labor for free.

Understand displacement and how that plays into land acknowledgment. Land acknowledgment is complicated. Remember that the United States government displaced many Tribes from land before treaties were signed.
The Native Governance Center is a Native-led nonprofit dedicated to assisting Native nations in strengthening their governance systems and capacity to exercise sovereignty.

HTTPS://NATIVEGOV.ORG/NEWS/A-GUIDE-TO-INDIGENOUS-LAND-ACKNOWLEDGMENT/