



DIBP SESSION TOPICS

Fall 2024

WORKSHOP TITLE & DESCRIPTION	SESSION DATE	FACILITATOR(S)
<p>Fundamentals of Diversity</p> <p>People have long sorted and stratified themselves based on social identity. Still, many of us belong to multiple social identities that create complex lived experiences because of power and privilege. This workshop will help participants to deepen their understanding of their social identity and the way power, and the privilege that it affords, shapes their daily lives. Special emphasis will be placed on the experiences of graduate students in college and university settings. The objectives for this workshop are to (a) define the concept of social identity; (b) outline the major social identities in the U.S.; (c) describe the three processes of social identity; (d) describe the systems of power, privilege, and oppression; (e) identify aspects one's own social identities; and (f) locate their positions on the Social Identity Scale.</p> <p>*Note: This workshop is required for badge completion</p>	<p>9/17/2024 10am-12pm</p> <p>9/26/2024 4pm-6pm</p> <p>9/30/2024 4pm-6pm</p> <p>10/16/2024 3pm-5pm</p>	<p>Niki Lockwood djlockwood@uri.edu</p> <p>Bryan Plankenhorn bplankenhorn@uri.edu</p> <p>Bryan Plankenhorn bplankenhorn@uri.edu</p> <p>Jodi Sutherland-Charvis jodisutherland@uri.edu</p>
<p>Building a Diverse Mentor Network</p> <p>Mentoring is a critical component of success both professionally and personally. But it can be challenging to figure out what we need mentoring in, who we should seek mentoring from, and how to find those people. Mentoring takes many different forms and involves many different people. This workshop examines 1) the roles that mentoring plays in our growth, success, and happiness, 2) who makes up our network of mentors currently, and 3) how we can grow that network to be more diverse and inclusive of the full spectrum of lived experiences, approaches, and voices needed to set us up for success.</p>	<p>10/09/2024 1pm-3pm</p> <p>10/18/2024 10am-12pm</p>	<p>Kelton McMahon kelton_mcmahon@uri.edu</p>

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<p>Anti-Muslim Bigotry</p> <p>Minority groups in the United States (US) suffer numerous difficulties because of the great diversity of our local communities. On top of these issues, which endanger civil peace and the safety of the entire community, comes anti-Muslim hatred. The primary drivers of such intolerance against Islam and Muslims in the US are racism, bias, prejudice, misrepresentation, and discrimination. Attacks, vandalism, arson, and other threats have been directed at the Muslim community and its organizations more frequently. Every time a Muslim commits an act of violence, there is room for some politicians and authors to demonize Islam and incite hatred toward Muslims. In actuality, Muslims cannot defeat anti-Muslim discrimination on their own. The American people ought to take a position for all citizens' rights, regardless of their race, ethnicity, color, or religion. These efforts are being made together to defend all minorities, including Muslims, as well as American principles. This discussion aims to dispel misconceptions and preconceptions about Muslims while also encouraging reflection on American principles and anti-Muslim hostility.</p>	<p>11/06/2024 6pm-8pm</p>	<p>Abdelnasser Hussein husseina@uhd.edu</p>
<p>Seeing White</p> <p>"Just what is going on with white people? [...] Where did the notion of "whiteness" come from? What does it mean? What is whiteness for?" White people, we have work to do. In this weekly discussion-based virtual workshop series, we'll come ready to discuss two episodes (per week) of Scene on Radio's "Seeing White" podcast. Sign up to attend one session, a few sessions, or all – weekly attendance strongly encouraged not required. Note: "Seeing White" was released between February and August 2017...but the information remains critical and is not outdated. John Biewen hosts, Dr. Chenjerai Kumanyika is a regular guest, and Loretta Williams is the editor.</p> <p>*Please listen to corresponding podcast episodes (about 30 minutes in length) and/or read corresponding podcast transcripts prior to each session. All podcast episodes are available at https://sceneonradio.org/seeing-white/</p> <p>Episodes: "White Affirmative Action" and "Transformation"</p>	<p>9/19/2024 4pm-6pm</p>	<p>Stephanie Argus stefanie.argus@gmail.com</p>

WORKSHOP TITLE & DESCRIPTION	SESSION DATE	FACILITATOR(S)
<p>Calm Internal Anxiety and Angst</p> <p>Growth, contemplation and assimilation of Nonviolence starts from within.</p> <p>In their evolution and practice, imagine the internal dialogue and thought lives of the Greats: Gandhi of India, MLK & Coretta of U.S.A, Mandela & Winnie of South Africa, Teresa of Calcutta, Mairead of Ireland and the many individuals whose lives were and have been greatly impacted by the practice of Nonviolence, embedded in their vision of compassion directed toward peace and reconciliation.</p> <p>In this insightful seminar, participants will engage in experiential sharing with reflective exercise as a form of personal inquiry into personal disposition, potential barriers, and perspectives to fostering healthier, richer, and fuller interpersonal and professional relationships.</p> <p>Embraced from a diverse range of perspectives, Nonviolence as an internalized and lived practice becomes innate only when appreciated as innately linked to one's personal convictions and values. A contemplative/healing workshop.</p>	<p>10/03/2024 10am-12pm</p>	<p>Roberta Opara ro-opara@uri.edu</p>
<p>Taking an active role in unlearning and dismantling racism</p> <p>Implicit and explicit factors influence the way that we act and speak; and may require some uncomfortable work to dismantle. In this workshop, we will work to better understand how to actively be anti-racist by 1. Learning how to recognize and work to unpack our biases 2. Acknowledging the meaning of intersectionality with regards to race and 3. Discussing how to challenge prejudices in our own circles. Participants will discuss the "active" component of anti-racism and the commitment to being anti-racist in all aspects of their lives.</p>	<p>09/18/2024 3pm-5pm</p>	<p>Niki Lockwood dilockwood@uri.edu</p>
<p>Conflict Reconciliation and Compassionate Communication</p> <p>Real conversations are often the hardest to have. In our personal lives, at work, with mentors and professional colleagues, we invariably skim the surface of deeper issues when exploring difficulties or deeply rooted emotions and frequently arm ourselves with close at hand words, phrases or descriptors. Will an expanded emotional vocabulary assist us navigate these conversations we typically avoid? And help us connect better with others- even if we think they may be different or see things from a permanently placed lens of perception? In this session on nonviolent communication, we will expand our emotional vocabulary and explore the steps developed by Marshall Rosenberg as a tool to empower courageous conversations with which to broaden and ease ordinarily difficult conversations.</p>	<p>10/03/2024 10am-12pm</p>	<p>Roberta Opara ro-opara@uri.edu</p>

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<p>Racism and Antiracism in Social Media:</p> <p>As we become more reliant on social media platforms for community, information, and entertainment, it is vital to understand the role of social media in both spreading racism and helping to disseminate antiracism. While traditional media has a substantial history of racism, online platforms have also become inundated with racism, hatred and bullying. Social media platforms have created an interactive world in which users can share ideas rapidly, communicate with individuals outside of their usual circles, and create communities of like-minded people which can spill over into both racist and antiracist social and political movements. Participants in this workshop will discuss the blatant and veiled forms of racism on social media, cancel culture, and the role social media companies should play in preventing hatred on the internet. Discussions will also cover the benefits of social media for communities of color and anti-racist action and develop actionable ideas for being a responsible user on social media platforms. Participants will leave the workshop with the ability to recognize implicit and explicit racism on social media platforms, and the groundwork for responsible social media usage and conflict resolution online.</p>	<p>9/25/2024 1pm-3pm</p>	<p>Taylor Lindsay taylor_lindsay@uri.edu</p>
<p>Embracing Values</p> <p>This workshop will help graduate students to identify their values that drive their day-to-day life, and how those can be incorporated in their assistantship roles.</p>	<p>10/28/2024 4pm-6pm</p>	<p>Mariyam Abbas mariyamabbas@uri.edu</p>
<p>Parachute Science</p> <p>This workshop addresses a critical issue in the realm of research and fieldwork, where the concept of "parachute science" has gained prominence. This workshop focuses on promoting ethical and respectful engagement between researchers from wealthier Western countries and local researchers in foreign communities. It seeks to foster collaboration, knowledge sharing, and mutual respect, ultimately ensuring that the contributions of local researchers are acknowledged and valued.</p>	<p>9/20/2024 10am-12pm</p>	<p>Jill Ashe jillashey@uri.edu</p>

WORKSHOP TITLE & DESCRIPTION	SESSION DATE	FACILITATOR(S)
<p>Social Justice & Disability: Recognizing, Understanding, and Addressing Ableism</p> <p>In this session, we will discuss stereotypes commonly held about people with disabilities and how these stereotypes are linked to many forms of ableism. We will dive deeper into ableism and ways that it shows up in the media and every day exchanges. Using historic and more contemporary models of disability, we will frame ableism and discuss strategies that can be used to counteract it. Finally, we will intentionally discuss invisible disabilities and the impact that they have on the daily lives of individuals managing them. The goals of this session are to help participants (a) understand and articulate stereotypes about people with disabilities, (b) identify and label ableism as they encounter it, (c) apply models of disability to various types of ableism, (d) provide context around invisible disabilities and the lived experiences of individuals with those diagnoses and (e) use their understanding of stereotypes, ableism, and invisible disabilities to be more thoughtful in their interactions with others.</p>	<p>10/08/2024 10am-12pm</p>	<p>Paige Ramsdell pramsdell@uri.edu</p>
<p>Access, Advocacy and Allyship within Formal Structures</p> <p>Inspired by the work of Sophie Williams on how to become an 'Anti-Racist Ally, we'll take an organizational lens to examine how these structures and units can also become agents embracing change by offering their members/employees power, agency, language and space to have the mighty conversations that frame better policies and stir the dynamic 'melting pot' of empowered diversity.</p>	<p>11/01/2024 1pm-3pm</p>	<p>Roberta Opara ro-opara@uri.edu</p>
<p>Queer & Trans Inclusive Practices for Educators</p> <p>This workshop is aimed towards those in teaching positions or those who work with students across all grade levels/contexts/content areas, including GA's and instructors of record. In this dialogic workshop, we will discuss inclusive language, pedagogy, and representation. Participants will have the opportunity to consider how cisheteronormativity shows up in everyday classroom spaces and discourse, as well as ways to enact more inclusive practices in their everyday work. This session is intended for all graduate students inclusive of any gender and/or sexuality.</p>	<p>10/02/2024 6pm-8pm</p>	<p>Zoe Dellaert zdellaert@uri.edu</p>

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<p>Finding the Art and Humanity in Your Work</p> <p>In this session, participants will develop a baseline understanding for the influence and impact of including our own personal story into our work, research, studies. Sharing story, especially from our own lived experience, is a well-proven method for building trust, relationships, and empathy. During this interactive session, we will each share an image of our own choosing and describe the importance this particular image represents for ourselves and how it relates to how we see ourselves today. When this is done inside academia, within the context of research, there is a powerful opening of equity and relationship that can be shared amongst participants. It's also a lot of fun to learn about others and realize that our stories are interwoven more than we realize.</p>	<p>10/24/2024 1pm-3pm</p>	<p>Alex DeCiccio alex_deciccio@uri.edu</p> <p>Ryan Campos ryan_campos@uri.edu</p>
<p>Cultural Genocide: Native American Boarding Schools in the U.S.</p> <p>Between the early 1800s and until as recently as the 1960s, Native American children from across the United States were removed from their homes, families, and communities, and sent to residential boarding schools. Hundreds were known to have died. Many survivors speak of the abuse they endured as a form of "education." Utilizing a variety of mediums including archival photographs, video clips, and primary source documents, this workshop will provide an introduction to how Native American boarding schools in the United States functioned as deliberate sites of cultural genocide.</p> <p>Content note: This class addresses the abuse and trauma that Native American children endured at residential boarding schools.</p> <p>Engaging with some of the content may be difficult.</p>	<p>10/10/2024 4pm-6pm</p>	<p>Stephanie Argus stefanie.argus@gmail.com</p>
<p>Decolonizing Data: Understanding Native American Sovereignty in the Digital Age</p> <p>In this workshop, participants will develop and explore the concepts of what data is and how it is acquired. Participants will learn how much of our data is protected under national law and how data has been stolen and misused from Native American communities. The workshop will conclude in exploring innovative actions that Indigenous Nations are taking today to protect their data, culture, and heritage.</p>	<p>09/24/2024 4pm-6pm</p>	<p>Bryan Plankenhorn bplankenhorn@uri.edu</p>

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<p>Mental Health, Mad Studies, and Making of Inclusive Language</p> <p>This workshop will discuss mental health and the many ways in which those who identify as mad, have a mood disorder, have a personality disorder, or are neurodivergent might experience spaces or situations. Different forms of ableism will be discussed, particularly those iterations of ableism that affect the aforementioned groups. Everyday language makes frequent, unfortunate use of ableist terms and idioms that alienate these groups. Identifying these terms can help you choose more inclusive alternatives. Various social and academic expectations will be covered in terms of how they can be added stressors for these same individuals since many environments are designed with only the neurotypical, productive worker or scholar in mind. The academic study of mental illness, commonly called Mad Studies, will also be briefly discussed as it presents an opportunity for revolutionary methods of thinking about the mind. Various mental health resources will also be provided.</p>	<p>09/30/2024 1pm-3pm</p>	<p>Holly Allen holly.allen@uri.edu</p>
<p>Who is “Everyone” When You Say That “Everyone is Welcome?”-Creating Accessible Spaces</p> <p>Tables. Chairs. Lights. Everyday objects can become stress-inducing obstacles for those with disabilities or chronic illnesses. A classroom can therefore be a space that inhibits learning by creating discomfort or distraction. A workplace, an entertainment venue, and a place of business can all create similarly unwelcoming environments for certain groups. This session will cover some of the more common limiting aspects of various spaces and ways in which one might choose better alternatives. Online and print media, such as work correspondence, advertising, and social media posts, will also be discussed in terms of how accessible and welcoming they might be to those with various visual processing disorders and similar conditions.</p>	<p>10/07/2024 1pm-3pm</p>	<p>Holly Allen holly.allen@uri.edu</p>
<p>Cultural Differences and its Entanglements in the US</p> <p>This workshop focuses on cultural diversity and inclusivity, the relationship between culture, racism and inequality and identifies systematic cultural assumptions in America. It highlights cultural alienation within America and how it impacts our individuality, social and academic performance and how it has the ability to affect one's mental state.</p>	<p>09/18/2024 4pm-6pm</p>	<p>Florence Fields ffields@uri.edu</p>

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<p>White Camouflage: When Whiteness Becomes Invisible to White People</p> <p>For some White-identifying people, White racial identity is highly salient. There are those for whom Whiteness is a source of pride, a mark of ethnic or cultural superiority or at least an identity worth defending and asserting. For others, their white identity is salient because they actively oppose what they view as a racist social construct which privileges them by harming others.</p> <p>For many White-identifying people, however, their own white identity is far less salient. They may acknowledge that they are White, but not give their racial identity much thought or invest it with much personal meaning. Their whiteness, in other words, is camouflaged. Viewed through a lens of critical white studies, this invisibility can strengthen White Supremacy rather than shrink it.</p> <p>Why would that be the case? How might a lack of focus on racial identity salience be a driver of racism rather than a path away from it? And if the invisibility of whiteness to white people can in fact somehow be harmful to people of color, how do white people elevate the salience of their own white racial identities?</p>	<p>10/07/2024 6pm-8pm</p>	<p>David Hayes davidhayes@uri.edu</p>
<p>From Becky to Karen: (De)-weaponizing White Womxnhood</p> <p>Are you a white womxn? Join us for honest, urgent conversations on white womxn, racism, and sexism.</p> <p>In the United States, the mainstream feminist movement has centered on white, cisgender, middle-class women above all others. We need to talk about the spaces and roles we occupy, and our responsibilities. This is not a presentation-style workshop; we will learn through conversation and inquiry. Bring your questions, fears, concerns, hopes, and honesty. We'll embrace discomfort and learning together.</p> <p>Prior to our session, listen to this 50-minute podcast, "Side Effects of White Women," with Amanda Seales: https://www.stitcher.com/podcast/starburns-audio/small-doses/e/54694841?autoplay=true (uncensored language)</p>	<p>10/02/24 10am-12pm</p>	<p>Stephanie Argus stefanie.argus@gmail.com</p>

WORKSHOP TITLE & DESCRIPTION	SESSION DATE	FACILITATOR(S)
<p>Antisemitism: Understanding its History and How it Manifests Today</p> <p>This 90 minute workshop will provide students with the origins, evolution and context of past and present manifestations of antisemitism and will help students understand and feel well-equipped to identify, respond to and proactively educate others about antisemitism.</p> <p>In advance of this workshop, students will be asked to watch Part 1 (16 minutes) and Part 2 (9 minutes) of Hillel International's 3-part video series on antisemitism (https://www.hillel.org/three-part-video-series-on-antisemitism/) and fill out reflection sheets which will be used as part of our group discussion.</p> <p>Trigger Warning: The content of this curriculum may cause students to feel emotional or uncomfortable. For those who have encountered antisemitism directly, or know someone who has, these videos and discussion may trigger painful feelings.</p>	<p>10/31/2024 10am-12pm</p>	<p>Amy Olson amyolson@uri.edu</p>
<p>Environmental Justice 101</p> <p>While climate change is a worldwide phenomenon, those living in low-income areas and in communities of color face disproportionate impacts from climate and environmental threats. From air and water pollution to neighborhood infrastructure and from routine flooding to extreme weather events, the burden of climate change weighs heaviest on disadvantaged communities. The environmental justice (EJ) movement strives for genuine engagement of and equitable outcomes for the diverse communities most affected by climate hazards. EJ recognizes that climate impacts are more than physical or scientific—they are political, social, and racial. This beginner's workshop introduces participants to the ways in which race, environmental policies, and climate impacts are interrelated and provides room for a discussion about those interconnections.</p> <p>This workshop is a precursor to the action-oriented Environmental Justice 201: Environmental Justice Action workshop. While participants aren't required to attend both EJ workshops, they're encouraged to do so. Participants of all backgrounds and disciplines are welcome, and those with no EJ experience are especially encouraged!</p> <p>Pre-work: - Briefly explore the New York Times article (2020) linking decades of racial discrimination and redlining to contemporary climate change impacts: https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/08/24/climate/racism-redlining-cities-global-warming.html</p>	<p>09/24/2024 6pm-8pm</p>	<p>Kyle Gray kyle@throwe-environmental.com</p>

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<p>Environmental Justice 201</p> <p>The research is clear: low-income and communities of color are overburdened with the impacts of climate change and other environmental hazards. The environmental justice (EJ) movement, as part of the global social justice movement, strives to respond to these injustices, demanding meaningful action and real change. But what does EJ action actually look like for you? How can we integrate actions (short-, mid-, and long-term) in support of the EJ movement into our lives? This discussion and activity-based workshop focuses on the actions we can take to support justice in our communities, our work, and every aspect of our lives. Participants will learn about existing EJ resources; reflect on their own disciplines and career paths, considering how they can support EJ (or SJ, generally) in their professional lives; and brainstorm types of and avenues for action.</p> <p>This workshop builds nicely off of the introductory Environmental Justice 101: Racism, Environmental Justice, and Climate Change workshop if you are new to the topic. If you have any background in environmental justice already, this is the course for you!</p>	<p>10/28/24 6pm-8pm</p>	<p>Kyle Gray kyle@throwe-environmental.com</p>