



# DIBP SESSION TOPICS

## Spring 2025

WORKSHOP TITLE & DESCRIPTION	SESSION DATE	FACILITATOR(S)						
<p><b>Fundamentals of Diversity: Social Identity, Power, and Privilege</b></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><b>*Note: This workshop is required for badge completion</b></p>	<p>02/04/2025 4pm-6pm</p> <p>02/06/2025 1pm-3pm</p> <p>02/10/2025 10am-12pm</p> <p>02/12/2025 4pm-6pm</p>	<p>Bryan Plankenhorn <a href="mailto:bplankenhorn@uri.edu">bplankenhorn@uri.edu</a></p> <p>Niki Lockwood <a href="mailto:dilockwood@uri.edu">dilockwood@uri.edu</a></p> <p>Florence Fields <a href="mailto:ffields@uri.edu">ffields@uri.edu</a></p> <p>Emmanuel Oyewole <a href="mailto:emmanuel.oyewole@uri.edu">emmanuel.oyewole@uri.edu</a></p>						
<p><b>All The World Is A Classroom: Performing as Teachers and Learners</b></p> <p>Theatre offers unique tools and techniques that can help educators expand their empathy and intercultural competence in the classroom. In this session, participants will practice: 1) becoming comfortable in presenting their authentic persona to students in order to cultivate a genuine sense of a classroom community; 2) improvisation exercises designed to help instructors promote the free exchange of ideas; 3) relaxation and rehearsal techniques that allow instructors to think on their feet with more agility when difficult conversations arise; 4) strategies to facilitate community building and sense of belonging in the classroom. Participants are encouraged to wear clothing in which they feel comfortable moving around.</p> <p>Program Objectives:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="94 1661 906 1724"> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td style="background-color: #d4edda;">4</td> <td>5</td> <td style="background-color: #d1ecf1;">6</td> </tr> </table>	1	2	3	4	5	6	<p>03/03/2025 10am-12pm</p>	<p>Anna Santucci <a href="mailto:annasantuccileoni@gmail.com">annasantuccileoni@gmail.com</a></p>
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<p align="center"><b>Program Objectives:</b></p> <p>1. Social Construction of Difference, 2. Inequality, Privilege, and Oppression, 3. Impact of Discrimination, 4. Problem Solving and Conflict Resolution, 5. Perspectives of Marginalized Groups, 6. Communication Styles</p>								

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<p><b>Anti-Muslim Bigotry</b></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>Program Objectives:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="94 982 906 1047"> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> </tr> </table>	1	2	3	4	5	6	<p>03/24/2025 6pm-8pm</p>	<p>Abdelnasser Hussein <a href="mailto:husseina@uhd.edu">husseina@uhd.edu</a></p>
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<p><b>Antisemitism: Understanding its History and How it Manifests Today</b></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 (<a href="https://www.hillel.org/three-part-video-series-on-antisemitism/">https://www.hillel.org/three-part-video-series-on-antisemitism/</a>) and fill out reflection sheets which will be used as part of our group discussion.</p> <p>Program Objectives:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="94 1638 906 1703"> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> </tr> </table>	1	2	3	4	5	6	<p>02/24/2025 1pm-3pm</p>	<p>Amy Olson <a href="mailto:amyolson@uri.edu">amyolson@uri.edu</a></p>
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<p align="center"><b>Program Objectives:</b></p> <p>1. Social Construction of Difference, 2. Inequality, Privilege, and Oppression, 3. Impact of Discrimination, 4. Problem Solving and Conflict Resolution, 5. Perspectives of Marginalized Groups, 6. Communication Styles</p>								

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<p><b>Building a Diverse Mentor Network</b></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>Program Objectives:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="94 724 906 787"> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> </tr> </table>	1	2	3	4	5	6	<p>02/18/2025 10am-12pm</p>	<p>Kelton McMahon <a href="mailto:kelton_mcmahon@uri.edu">kelton_mcmahon@uri.edu</a></p>
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<p><b>Cultural Differences and its Entanglements in the U.S.</b></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>Program Objectives:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="94 1220 906 1283"> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> </tr> </table>	1	2	3	4	5	6	<p>03/27/2025 10am-12pm</p>	<p>Florence Fields <a href="mailto:ffields@uri.edu">ffields@uri.edu</a></p>
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<p><b>Embracing Values</b></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>Program Objectives:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="94 1602 906 1665"> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> </tr> </table>	1	2	3	4	5	6	<p>02/19/2025 1pm-3pm</p>	<p>Mariyam Abbas <a href="mailto:mariyamabbas@uri.edu">mariyamabbas@uri.edu</a></p>
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<p><b>Exploring Native American Data Sovereignty in the U.S.</b></p> <p>This workshop is focused on understanding what data sovereignty is in the US and exploring what laws are in place to protecting data. I then talk about some case studies where Native American Tribal Sovereignty has been violated in the past and in the present day United States. The presentation wraps up by talking about what Indigenous organizations are doing to protect tribal sovereignty and what individuals themselves could do to support tribal nations.</p> <p>Program Objectives:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="92 724 906 785"> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> </tr> </table>	1	2	3	4	5	6	<p>03/20/2025 1pm-3pm</p>	<p>Bryan Plankenhorn <a href="mailto:bplankenhorn@uri.edu">bplankenhorn@uri.edu</a></p>
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<p><b>Finding the Art and Humanity in Your Work</b></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>Program Objectives:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="92 1369 906 1430"> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> </tr> </table>	1	2	3	4	5	6	<p>03/18/2025 6pm-8pm</p>	<p>Alex DeCiccio <a href="mailto:alex_deciccio@uri.edu">alex_deciccio@uri.edu</a></p> <p>Ryan Campos <a href="mailto:ryan_campos@uri.edu">ryan_campos@uri.edu</a></p>
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<p><b>Program Objectives:</b> 1. Social Construction of Difference, 2. Inequality, Privilege, and Oppression, 3. Impact of Discrimination, 4. Problem Solving and Conflict Resolution, 5. Perspectives of Marginalized Groups, 6. Communication Styles</p>								

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<p><b>Intersectionality and Acculturation: Intertwined Social Identities and Determinants</b></p> <p>Aspects of social justice, in particular health equity may be addressed by acknowledging differences in combined social identities and nativity status. This workshop will explore key tenets of intersectionality in addressing systems of power, privilege and oppression while simultaneously describing the role of acculturation in social equity.</p> <p>Program Objectives:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="94 659 906 722"> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> </tr> </table>	1	2	3	4	5	6	<p>04/02/2025 4pm-6pm</p>	<p>Jodi Sutherland Charvis <a href="mailto:jodisutherland@uri.edu">jodisutherland@uri.edu</a></p> <p>Mariyam Abbas <a href="mailto:mariyamabbas@uri.edu">mariyamabbas@uri.edu</a></p>
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<p><b>Parachute Science</b></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>Program Objectives:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="94 1169 906 1232"> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> </tr> </table>	1	2	3	4	5	6	<p>02/26/2025 1pm-3pm</p>	<p>Jill Asheby <a href="mailto:jillashey@uri.edu">jillashey@uri.edu</a></p>
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<p><b>Practicalities of Environmental Justice</b></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.</p> <p>Program Objectives:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="94 1610 906 1673"> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> </tr> </table>	1	2	3	4	5	6	<p>03/31/2025 4pm-6pm</p>	<p>Wes Gobar <a href="mailto:wgobar@gmail.com">wgobar@gmail.com</a></p>
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<p><b>Queer &amp; Trans Inclusive Practices for Educators</b></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>Program Objectives:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="94 703 906 768"> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> </tr> </table>	1	2	3	4	5	6	<p>02/20/2025 6pm-8pm</p>	<p>Zoe Dellaert <a href="mailto:zdellaert@uri.edu">zdellaert@uri.edu</a></p>
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<p><b>Social Justice &amp; Disability: Recognizing, Understanding, and Addressing Ableism</b></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>Program Objectives:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="94 1486 906 1551"> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> </tr> </table>	1	2	3	4	5	6	<p>03/05/2025 10am-12pm</p>	<p>Paige Ramsdell <a href="mailto:pramsdell@uri.edu">pramsdell@uri.edu</a></p>
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<p><b>Taking an Active Role in Unlearning and Dismantling Racism</b></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>Program Objectives:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="94 743 906 808"> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> </tr> </table>	1	2	3	4	5	6	<p>02/27/2025 4pm-6pm</p>	<p>Niki Lockwood <a href="mailto:djlockwood@uri.edu">djlockwood@uri.edu</a></p>
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<p><b>White Camouflage: When Whiteness Becomes Invisible to White People</b></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>Program Objectives:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="94 1625 906 1690"> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> </tr> </table>	1	2	3	4	5	6	<p>03/26/2025 6pm-8pm</p>	<p>David Hayes <a href="mailto:davidhayes@uri.edu">davidhayes@uri.edu</a></p>
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<p><b>Writing Diversity Statements</b></p> <p>Diversity statements are typically required when you apply for jobs in academic and professional sectors. These short pieces of writing highlight how you have worked (and will work) to advance equity, diversity, and inclusion in your professional life. In this workshop, Colleen Mouw will help you begin to craft your diversity statement. We will unpack components of successful diversity statements, discuss how search committees at different institutions review applications, and work as peers to develop your writing.</p> <p>Program Objectives:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="92 669 906 737"> <tr> <td data-bbox="92 669 228 737">1</td> <td data-bbox="228 669 365 737">2</td> <td data-bbox="365 669 501 737">3</td> <td data-bbox="501 669 638 737">4</td> <td data-bbox="638 669 774 737">5</td> <td data-bbox="774 669 906 737">6</td> </tr> </table>	1	2	3	4	5	6	<p>04/01/2025 10am-12pm</p>	<p>Colleen Mouw <a href="mailto:cmouw@uri.edu">cmouw@uri.edu</a></p>
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