



Multicultural Consultation Team Newsletter

Spring 2022 Issue

The **Multicultural Consultation (MCC) Team** is composed of graduate students in the Department of Psychology at the University of Rhode Island.

Our mission is to cultivate an inclusive community and support students, faculty, and staff as they build knowledge and implement multiculturalism into their work and facilitate the conduct of culturally-informed, inclusive, and equitable research, teaching, service, and clinical practice.

What services do we provide?



Teaching

(e.g., review of syllabi, input on best classroom practices)



Mentorship

(e.g., resources for power differentials, input on recruitment and retention of diverse students)



Research

(e.g., recruitment strategies, selection of psychological tests/questionnaires)



Practice

(e.g., culturally competent best practices, suggestions for culturally competent training opportunities, resources for working with interpreters in mental health settings)



Supervision

(e.g., groundwork for culturally competent supervision, ways to address cultural differences in supervisory relationships)



Not sure what other services we provide? Just ask!

To schedule an appointment, please visit our website:

<https://web.uri.edu/psychology/about/inclusion-and-diversity-initiatives/multicultural-consultation-team/>

Upcoming Events

Inclusion and Diversity Committee (IDC)

The Inclusion and Diversity Committee (IDC) is a collaboration of faculty, staff, and graduate students who are committed to cultivating a department environment that promotes inclusive excellence. Members engage in critical conversations and select thoughtful actions during monthly meetings.

All are welcome to join our meetings!

Spring 2022 Meetings (via Zoom):

2/28/22 at 1pm

3/28/22 at 1pm

4/18/22 at 1pm

5/16/22 at 1pm

IDC Brown Bag Series

Dr. Brian Ragsdale is presenting on white fragility: Lessons in studying power, privilege, and oppression.

3/10/22 at 3pm via zoom

Dr. Kat Quina is presenting on multicultural/intersectional teaching practices

4/21/22 at 3pm via zoom

Students of Color Meeting

The Students of Color meeting serves as a platform and safe space for students of color to discuss experiences and issues that might be affecting them in and outside of the program. Meetings are held monthly.

For more information about the Students of Color Meeting, email Alexa at raudales@uri.edu.

Spring 2022 Meetings

(Chafee 150 or virtual per request):

2/14/22 at 1pm

3/21/22 at 1pm

4/11/22 at 1pm

5/9/22 at 1pm

“The Inclusive Leader: Taking Intentional Action for Justice and Equity” by Dr. Artika R. Tyner - a pathway for leaders to effect change through reflecting on and grappling with unconscious and implicit biases, encouraging honest discussions, and taking action to change organizational behavior for the better. It provides a practical framework for building the essential leadership competencies rooted in the principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion.

“We Are Not Here to be Bystanders: A Memoir of Love and Resistance” by Linda Sarsour - Linda Sarsour, co-organizer of the Women’s March, shares an “unforgettable memoir” about how growing up Palestinian Muslim American, feminist, and empowered moved her to become a globally recognized activist on behalf of marginalized communities across the country.

Mixed Methods and COVID-19 Disparities

Mixed-methods research involves the collection and analysis of combined quantitative (numerical) and qualitative (in-depth and descriptive) data. Mixed-methods research studies allow researchers to explore the contexts and lived experiences of participants, adding to the breadth and depth of a study. Mixed methods can also add context to surprising or contradictory data. For example, a survey [study](#) examining the relationship between COVID-related trust in the medical system and race found that there were no significant differences in trust between Black and white participants. Among conducting qualitative interviews, researchers were able to explore how the context of the pandemic led participants to strategically place trust in COVID mitigation strategies despite historical and systemic barriers to trust.

Student Spotlight



Elaine Ruiz M.A. is a 4th year Clinical Psychology Ph.D. student working with Dr. Ellen Flannery-Schroeder at the University of Rhode Island. Her focus areas are child/family/developmental psychology and multicultural psychology. Her clinical experiences with diverse populations, specifically Latinx first generation immigrants, have informed her research as well as her community involvement.

In 2021, Elaine helped establish the Rhode Island Psychological Association’s (RIPA) Social Justice and Public Policy committee and was appointed co-chair of the committee. She is the first graduate student to be named chair of a committee at RIPA. The committee’s mission is to enhance the diversity and inclusivity of RIPA membership and leadership, provide education and training on human diversity and social justice issues, undertake community outreach, advise the RIPA board regarding stances on social issues that promote people’s wellbeing, and advocate for local and state legislative initiatives and policies that enhance human welfare.

If you are interested in learning more about this committee and ways that you could be involved in social justice initiatives in RI, **please email elaineruiz@uri.edu for more information**