IPI510 – Encountering the Other

Instructor:
Laura Duhan Kaplan and TBA

Purpose:
This course encourages students to identify issues in multi-cultural communication, become aware of personal barriers, and develop skills for working with them. Students will be introduced to (1) critical concepts about the politics of identity and cultural complexes; (2) philosophical discussion of inner stances towards welcoming the other; and (3) practical techniques for listening and shared change. Discussions will emphasize Canadian cultural milieus, and faith-based contexts.

Competence Objectives:
Drawn from the IIs program:
• Articulate theoretical perspectives on the social dynamics of identity and prejudice
• Demonstrate personal awareness of these dynamics
• Articulate and demonstrate practices and strategies for respectful communication
• Articulate tensions and respectful approaches around inter-cultural issues such as collision, appropriation, and assimilation
• Develop the ability to strategize and plan in the areas of conflict resolution and inter- religious and cross-cultural communication and education approaches

Format: This course can meet in either a three-weekend or weekly format. Classroom activities will include lecture, discussion, reflective writing, small group-activities, and a mini-workshop led by a dialogue facilitator.

Identification of Levels at Which Course Can Be Taken: Registrar will supply.

Required Reading:


**Assignments:**
Attendance meeting VST policies, thoughtful preparation of assigned reading, attentive class participation, and three 500-word reflection papers will be required for all students. Students in degree programs will complete a 3000-word research paper engaging with one of the course themes.

**Prerequisites:** None

**Selected bibliography:**


Fixico, Donald L. *The American Indian Mind in a Linear World: American Indian


