

A World Café Dialogue Series on Immigration in America



World Café is an innovative conversational process for hosting conversations about questions that matter. These conversations link and build on each other as people move between groups, cross-pollinate ideas, and discover new insights into the questions or issues that are most important in their life, work, or community.

Immigration has become one of the most contentious political conflicts in the United States. Neighborhoods and communities all over the country are divided over the issue and struggling to come to grips with what to do. No matter how long we have lived in the US or how we got here, we are all part of the changes going on in our communities. We can't just sit back and watch what is going on.

In this four-part dialogue series we explore the complexity of immigration and attempt to gain an understanding of the perspective and narrative of others, while at the same time try to develop a sense of empowerment and responsibility to take action.

The program is open for students, faculty, staff and members of the community. Certain courses will offer extra credit for participation in this event.

Schedule of events

Who are we? The Many Faces of Our Community

Thursday February 14, 2008 - 7:30 p.m. in SUB II room 1-2

How is Our Community Changing?

Thursday March 6, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. in SUB II - Room 7

Global Perspectives on Immigration

Thursday April 17, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. in SUB II - Room 7

Making a Difference: What can we do in Our Communities?

Thursday May 1, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. in SUB II - Room 7

Free pizza and drinks!

To register or for more information please contact: mjakobse@gmu.edu

In this world of polarizing conflicts, we have glimpsed a new possibility: a way in which people can disagree frankly and passionately, become clearer in heart and mind about their activism, and, at the same time, contribute to a more civil and compassionate society.



Dialogue and Difference



Building Community Through Conversation

What is Dialogue?

Dialogue seeks to create a quality of conversation that allows for the transformation of inter-personal relations and that may lead to new and shared understanding of complex or controversial societal issues.

Sustained and meaningful dialogue is necessary to address issues of difference and to promote the creation of a just and multicultural campus community.

Spring 2008 Program Offerings

World Café Dialogue Series on Immigration in America

In this four-part dialogue series we explore the complexity of immigration and attempt to gain an understanding of the perspective and narrative of others, while at the same time try to develop a sense of empowerment and responsibility to take action.

Facilitators Needed!

We need facilitators to help with the Immigration dialogues. The dialogues will take place on the following dates: February 14, March 6, April 17 and May 1 from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

The dialogues will be in the World Cafe format with pre-determined questions and a facilitator guide. There will be a facilitation training on February 7th at 7:30 in SUB II (room TBA). If you are interested in participating please contact Monica Jakobsen at mjakobse@gmu.edu.

Web Dialogues on "Western - Muslim" World Relations

Need extra credit? Dialogue and Difference is collaborating with Soliya, a pioneering non-profit organization using new technologies to facilitate dialogue between students from diverse backgrounds across the globe, to offer web dialogues series between students at American and Middle Eastern universities.

In this program, students will engage in weekly facilitated dialogue sessions via Soliya's online videoconferencing application, discussing religion, terrorism, culture and other issues pertinent to the relationship between the "Western" and the "Muslim" worlds. As part of the dialogue students will produce their own video segments and write collaborative articles with their counterparts in the Middle East.

Certain courses will offer extra credit for participation in this event.

More information about the connect program is available here:

http://www.soliya.net/?q=connect_program
and here:

<http://edition.cnn.com/video/#/video/international/2007/12/03/ime.dec.a.soliya.cnn>