



From Gay to Ze: Using Cultural Responsiveness as a Model for Queer and Trans Inclusion

Tobias L. Spears, Ph.D.

11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Ruff Learning Center 202

This workshop focuses on acknowledging and understanding the realities of queer and trans individuals to foster camaraderie and cultural responsiveness. Participants will gain insights into cultural responsiveness and become acquainted with the language commonly used by queer and trans communities for self-affirmation. Through a media case study, attendees will develop a method for establishing safer spaces for these individuals. Emphasizing the importance of personal and collective courage, the workshop contends that, in a world often prone to dehumanizing and othering those with queer/trans identities, creating a sense of belonging for LGBTQ+ individuals requires intentional efforts.

“The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice.” Revisiting and Reframing Dr. King’s Original Intent

Frederick Charles Staidum Jr., Ph.D.

11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Huntington Recital Hall
Conservatory of Music

Dr. Staidum, assistant professor of English at Loyola University Chicago, specializes in long 19th century African American literature, cultural geography, and digital humanities. Holding additional appointments in Racial Justice and Women’s Studies, his research explores how hegemonic American culture shaped Blackness, emphasizing its ungendering and queerness, influencing modernity and liberalism. His forthcoming book, “New Orleans and Racial Identity in Nineteenth Century Writing,” investigates geographies of difference and Atlantic liberalism.

The Courage to Create

Kevin Griffith, Ph.D.

11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Convergent Media Center 141

Join this workshop to craft and share original poems in a supportive environment. Using prompts, participants will generate unique pieces that exercise their creative muscles. No prior experience is needed – just the ability to write and the openness to listen and share. Explore the joy of creative expression in a welcoming setting, where each participant’s voice is valued and celebrated.

A Constant Community Commitment

Pastor Frederick V. LaMarr

11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Ruff Learning Center 201

Explore the challenges of inner-city upbringing in this workshop, documenting the transformative journey of a southside community. Delve into the development of an inner-city movement that leverages community service to bring about positive change. Gain insights into the grassroots efforts that contribute to the transformation of lives and neighborhoods, shedding light on the power of community service as a catalyst for positive impact in urban environments.

Can I Get A Witness? The Public Theology Witness of the Black Church Concerning Voting Rights

Camren J. Harris, M.A. 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. 2 – 3:30 p.m. Blackmore Library 110

This workshop delves into the historical, ecclesiological, and systematic foundations of public theology within the context of the Black Church. Focused on the Black Church's advocacy for voting rights, it contends that this struggle aligns with the principles of public theology. Examining the historical and theological aspects, with emphasis on figures like Rev. Jesse Jackson and Rev. Raphael Warnock, the session aims to reveal how the theological arguments made by the Black Church for voting rights align with the criteria and framework of public theology.

Critical Conversations in Sport and Society

David Williams, Ed.D. 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. 2 – 3:30 p.m.
Mees Hall Ruff Learning Center
Bridge of Learning 260

Join Rise to Win, in collaboration with Capital University Athletics, for the culmination of our identity and equity series. After exploring multifaceted identities and virtual modules on equality, sports' role in social change, and personal activism statements, this workshop focuses on creating courageous change. Participants will identify strategies to leverage their privilege and power in pursuit of racial equality, fostering community-wide impact. Your input and involvement are vital as we collectively strive for a more diverse and inclusive society. Instilling values such as justice, kindness, truth, mercy, and love, the program aims to contribute to a societal fabric that embraces safety, fairness, and harmony, fostering a holistic approach to personal and collective well-being.

The Color of Law:

An Across the Curriculum Collaborative Model for Integrating Social Justice Topics into a Classroom

Melinda S. Molina, J.D. 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. 2 – 3:30 p.m. Blackmore Library 119
Chuck Cohen, J.D.

This workshop aims to contribute to the discussion surrounding ABA Standard 303(c), which mandates education on bias, cross-cultural competency, and racism twice during a law student's academic journey. Focused on Capital University's law school, the session details how faculty collaboratively integrate diversity, equity, and inclusion through Richard Rothstein's "Color of Law" in the first-year curriculum. The workshop demonstrates the use of contemporary nonfiction to contextualize substantive law, exploring historical and current events rooted in structural racism. By engaging with this approach, attendees will gain insights into fostering a more inclusive legal education that prepares students for diverse legal practice challenges.

Five Human Values Program Workshop

Rukiye Z. Abdul-Mutakallim 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. 2 – 3:30 p.m. Blackmore Library 115

This workshop imparts the Five Core Human Values – innate virtues crucial for fostering self-appreciation, respect for others, and enhanced accountability. Tailored for youth, it emphasizes Love, Right Conduct, Peace, Non-Violence, and Truth as foundational principles. In addressing contemporary needs, the program underscores the universal presence of these qualities within us, advocating for their rightful place in society. By instilling values such as justice, kindness, truth, mercy, and love, the program aims to contribute to a societal fabric that embraces safety, fairness, and harmony, fostering a holistic approach to personal and collective well-being.

Belonging in Higher Education

Breana Taylor, Ph.D., R.N.

2 – 3:30 p.m.

Learning Center 103

This workshop provides an overview and exploration of the concept of belonging, focusing on its significance in higher education, particularly in online and nursing education. Participants will engage in a discussion on fostering a sense of belonging, with a spotlight on practical strategies. The session encourages a small group brainstorming activity to generate ideas for cultivating belonging not only in higher education but also in diverse organizational and community settings. Attendees can expect insights into creating inclusive environments that enhance the sense of belonging within educational and broader community contexts.

Creating a Culture of Care

Katie Gorman-Ezell, Ph.D.

2 – 3:30 p.m.

Convergent Media Center 141

Renda Ross, Ph.D., LISW-S

Debbie Fournier, M.S.W., LISW-S

This workshop will empower social work educators to cultivate safe spaces and caring cultures within the academic microcosm. Utilizing interactive group environments, students engage in task groups, process groups, and vignettes to simultaneously experience and facilitate group processes. The curriculum emphasizes setting boundaries, creating rules, exploring norms, and navigating conflict, fostering skills in empathy and assertiveness. Acknowledging diverse lived experiences, the program encourages students to shape a culture of care, respecting individual perspectives while embracing diversity, equity, and inclusion. By fostering a safe environment, students are equipped to champion social justice and advocate for marginalized populations, ensuring a profession aligned with empathy, understanding, and a commitment to safety.

No Growth Without Confrontation: An MLK Experience for Those Interested in Social Change

David Belcastro, Ph.D.

2 – 3:30 p.m.

Ruff Learning Center 201

Arriving at a seminary under lockdown, I became aware that I was entering unknown territory in my own life journey. Classes were not limited to course content; nearly every class was a confrontation with people with different experiences, voices, and beliefs than my own. Then came the teachable moment, a learning experience that has shaped my life. Professor Ashbrook said, “No growth without confrontation.” I was required to participate in a program entitled “No Exit Relations,” in which I was assigned another student very different from myself. We were required to meet weekly and also to participate in weekly group meetings with five other couples, further increasing the diversity. This experience confirmed the principle that “no growth occurs without confrontation.”