

Intercultural Awareness Certificate

Host: Queen's University International Centre (QUIC) and Four Directions Indigenous Student Centre (4DISC)

QUIC and the Four Directions Indigenous Student Centre invite students to participate in this five-part series of workshops which will help them to recognize that gaining intercultural awareness requires a commitment to life-long learning. At the end of the training they will be able to:

- Describe the concept of culture and apply this concept to evaluate their own personal cultures;
- Identify various dimensions of culture that will help them effectively engage in an intercultural context;
- Practise various skills that will help them be more effective in intercultural interactions;
- Recognize their own strengths and challenges when interacting with cultural commonality and difference; and
- Evaluate their experiences with cultural difference and commonality in order to continue the development of their intercultural competence.
- Gain greater awareness and understanding of Indigenous culture; and
- Gain greater understanding and empathy for the lived experience of Western colonialism by Indigenous peoples in the Americas.

Participants must attend five 90 minute workshops, or three 150 minute workshops, in order to receive a certificate. Workshops are repeated in the Fall and Winter Terms. [See the full schedule](#). Space is limited; **reserve your place by emailing quic.training@queensu.ca**.

Participants are asked to complete the online training [Tools for Success in an Intercultural World](#) before registering for the Certificate workshops.

Workshops Descriptions:

1. **Intercultural begins with you:** Participants will be introduced to basic concepts of intercultural learning, with an emphasis on the importance of knowing one's own cultural self as a means to understanding and appreciating the culture of others, and thus gaining intercultural competence.
2. **Between cultures** – it takes a skill or two: In this workshop, we will continue to look at dimensions of culture – how we communicate and how we respond to difference – and how they affect our intercultural interactions. Participants will learn Janet Bennett's Describe-Interpret-Evaluate (D.I.E.) method for dealing with human interactions, as well as possible links between intercultural communication and effective interactions.
3. **Thinking about your intercultural competence** – an introduction to the Intercultural Development Continuum: The Intercultural Development Continuum, or IDC, was developed by Dr. Mitchell Hammer; the IDC outlines different stages of intercultural competence, or 'mindsets'. This workshop will introduce you to the IDC; it will help you to recognize characteristics of the various mindsets identified in the IDC, both in yourselves and in those around you.

4. **Indigenous Culture & Experience – KAIROS Blanket Exercise:** Queen's Four Directions Aboriginal Student Centre will present an interactive learning experience that teaches Indigenous rights history. The Kairos Blanket Exercise covers 500 years of history in a ninety minute participatory workshop. Participants will take-on the roles of Indigenous and Settler peoples in Canada and experience pre-contact, treaty-making, colonization and resistance.
5. **Indigenous Culture & Experience – Cultural Safety Training:** This session is comprised of two parts. The first part focuses on the diversity of Indigenous communities and peoples. Participants explore the concept of self-identity, the context of proper terminology to use when referring or speaking with Indigenous peoples. Participants are also guided to reflect and share their uniqueness, what gifts they carry as individuals, and methods of cross-communication through reflection. The session also utilizes the cultural framework model by taking the group through the Indigenous paradigm and comparing it to the dominant Western society. In the second part, participants explore the concept of issues in urban settings, why Indigenous Peoples choose not to self-identify. The group will further discuss and reflect on their individual stereotypes and biases they carry, along with societal privileges. Participants will also explore the ideology of creating empathetic relationships and collaborating with members of Indigenous communities.