**Voices Matter—Why You Need to Talk about Race**

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Thursdays, 6:30-8:00 PM EST

Open to: Adult only

Designed to stimulate conversations and empower the participants to take action regarding U.S. and global racial issues, Voices Matter—Why You Need to Talk about Race is a six-week interactive online course. The coursework motivates you to look inward as well as outward in order to learn about the historical, political, economic, and social forces that shape our perspectives and ourselves. Participants will engage such questions as: What role does socialization play in how we view ourselves and others? What does socialization teach us to view and what not to view? How does socialization teach us about us and others? Can socialization be disrupted? And what are the connections between socialization and identity? Where does race, class, gender, sexual orientation, and nationality, for example, come into play in this process?

Using a multi-dimensional framework, participants learn about the multiple “selves” that they embody and the social responsibilities that come with these identities. Additionally, we will explore the following concepts: bias, stereotype, prejudice and discrimination. Participants will also learn about marginalization, oppression and privilege and how these concepts and states of being influence and impact their daily lives. The process of reflexivity will be emphasized as a framework for building awareness, knowledge and skill.