

# Introduction to Multicultural Worldviews



Faculty	Course Type	Credits	Prerequisites	Semester
<a href="#">Dr. Jui Shankar</a>	General	4	None	Any

## Brief Overview

This experiential course aims to foster awareness of one's own and others cultural worldviews. A worldview is a framework of thoughts, ideas and attitudes each of us carries about the world around us. This comprehensive system of beliefs is shaped by our cultural backgrounds, influences, and experiences. The course will introduce students to discovering / re-discovering their own multiple cultural identities each carries with him/her. Cultural identities includes age, family background, ability / disability, religion / spirituality, language, caste, socio-economic status, sexual orientation, indigenous heritage, national identity, gender, geographic regions, urban-rural influences, and many more. These multiple identities influence unique individual worldviews within each of us. Students will learn to recognize their identities and the impact of their identity and worldview on others around them.

## Course Objectives

Students in this course will –

- explore and identify aspects of their own cultural background and experiences,
- reflect and through discussions, express how their cultural backgrounds and experiences have influenced their attitudes, values, and biases about the world around them,
- develop awareness about the impact of their cultural worldviews on others around them,
- demonstrate an awareness of how open one is or how resistant one is to cultural differences in others,
- learn to effectively dialogue and feedback on challenging issues, and
- Develop an ability to be open and think critically about multicultural perspectives and their own participation in these multicultural encounters.

## **Teaching Methodology**

The course is conducted mostly through interaction based lecture method, with regular class activities, experiments, film screenings, etc.\

## **Requirements**

Students are expected to –

- Complete all required reading for each scheduled class as per the course outline,
- Actively participate in class activities and discussions, and
- Complete all evaluative processes for successful course completion!