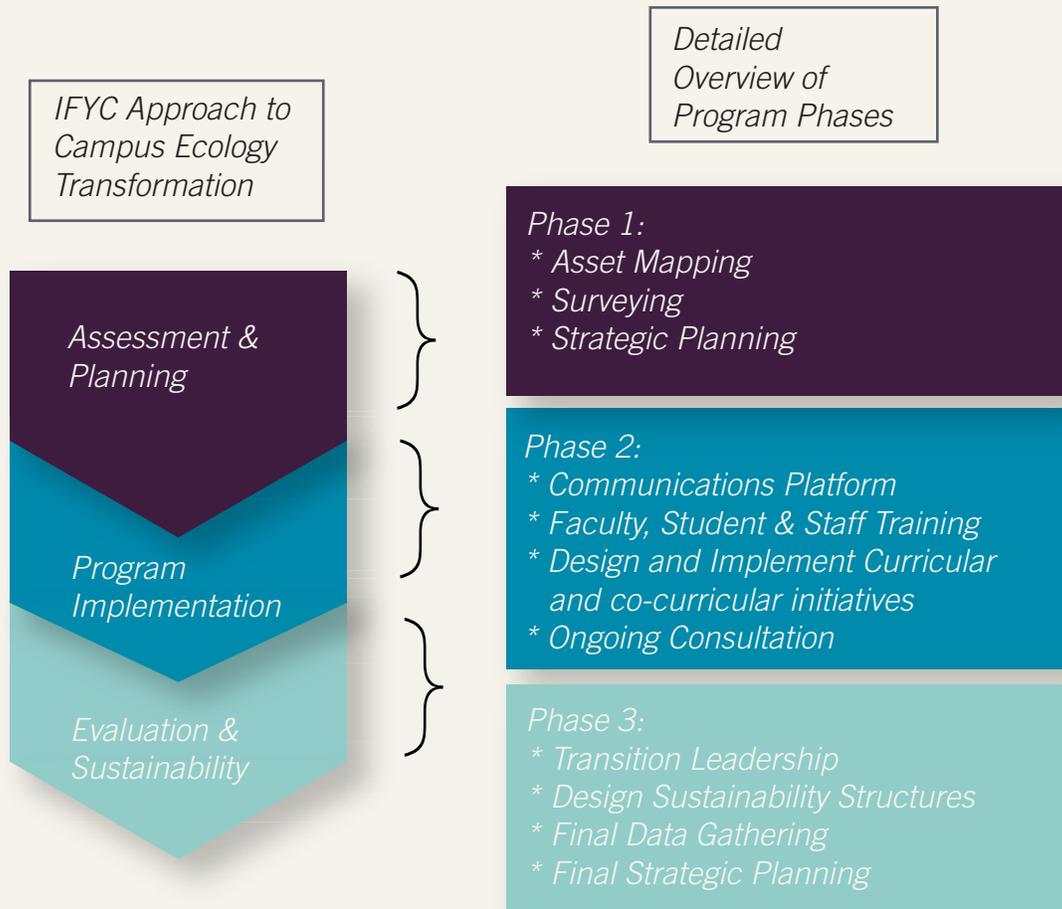




# Deep Engagements

America is the most religiously diverse country on earth and the most religiously devout country in the West. This can be a source of division or an opportunity for cooperation, and American colleges and universities can be models of that cooperation. Interfaith Youth Core's **Campus Partnerships** program works with campuses to build models of interfaith cooperation.

IFYC partnerships are characterized by a shared aspiration to create sustainable campus ecologies that support interfaith cooperation. A campus ecology, or the unique system of relationships and programs that support a campus-wide interfaith movement, must be actively cultivated by a campus. IFYC staff work with individual campuses to foster an intentional campus-wide ecology that supports interfaith cooperation, and IFYC's **Deep Engagement programs** target one sector of this ecology (e.g., the freshman class, the interfaith center, etc.) and equip it to engage religious diversity on campus. **Deep Engagements** typically range from six months to a year and utilize the following approach for implementation.



Thus, in a **Deep Engagement**, IFYC staff is involved in both programmatic development and implementation as well as intentionally developing campus staff capacity to carry on interfaith initiatives across campus.

Below are two examples of Deep Engagements following the three phase approach.

### *Campus-Wide Theme Year*

Before the start of the new school year, IFYC will **assess** existing interfaith programs across campus and target new campus programs which would be expanded to include an interfaith theme. IFYC will develop a strategy to incorporate the theme of interfaith cooperation into every aspect of campus life: class discussion, special events, student life, campus messaging, etc. During the academic year, IFYC, alongside IFYC-trained University staff, faculty, and administration, will **implement** the proposed curricular and co-curricular initiatives. At the end of the year, IFYC will **evaluate** and determine the most effective initiatives through campus-wide surveys. With this information, IFYC will co-develop necessary trainings to develop sustainable programs and leadership to ensure the continuation of successful initiatives.

### *Freshman Immersion Program*

During the summer, an IFYC survey will be given to the entire freshman class to **assess** their initial attitudes and behaviors regarding interfaith cooperation. IFYC will then develop a strategy for course curriculum that seeks to amplify interfaith leadership based on the findings of the survey. IFYC staff will conduct interfaith workshops with professors and teaching assistants to prepare them to engage religious diversity in the classroom. Throughout the year, IFYC will work alongside these trained faculty, university administration and staff to **implement** the proposed class agenda. At the close of the academic year, IFYC will survey students again to **evaluate** changed behaviors and attitudes and determine the success of the seminar. Based on this data, IFYC will work with campus staff to build sustainable programs that continue to address student behaviors and attitudes on campus.

### *Staff Time & Budget*

Due to the highly customized nature of the engagement, IFYC develops budgets for Deep Engagements on a case-by-case basis. However, given the long-term nature of these partnerships, there is generally a minimum of 200 IFYC staff hours dedicated to these programs. At \$85 per staff hour and with other program expenses included, the baseline financial commitment for a Deep Engagement is generally around \$20,000.

