Introduction to Interfaith Leadership

Interfaith Youth Core and Dominican University are delighted to share this curriculum for the course entitled *Introduction to Interfaith Leadership*. This complete curriculum is available for faculty to use in their classrooms, either through a blended learning cross-institutional course site on Canvas, or through these downloadable resources. There is no fee to use these materials, though we may contact you to learn more about how you are using them, and to measure their strengths and weaknesses. This project was made possible by generous funding from the Henry Luce Foundation.

This curriculum was designed to be adaptable to meet the needs of faculty in diverse disciplines and settings. Each lesson consists of 3-5 modules, each of which includes videos, discussion questions, classroom activities, and readings. We believe that this curriculum functions best when these various components are used together, and therefore strongly encourage you to integrate both video content and associated activities in your classes where appropriate. You are invited to use this curriculum even if you are only using select modules, rather than the curriculum in its entirety. In order to showcase what we believe is the optimal version of this course, we have indicated which activities and readings are required in the Canvas version of the course administered by Dominican University. We have also included a variety of additional suggested and recommended activities and readings throughout the curriculum.

If you have any questions about content or how to use this curriculum in an upcoming course, please email Carr@ifyc.org.
Lesson 5: Historical Examples of Interfaith Cooperation

Module 5.1: Why Does This History Matter?

In this lesson we identify the ways in which knowing historical examples of interfaith cooperation can help interfaith leaders today combat the false notion that religious difference inherently leads to violence and tension.

Video (5 min)

Student Learning Objectives:

• Articulate the purpose of understanding the history of interfaith cooperation for interfaith leadership

Discussion Questions:

• Before taking this course, what would have been the 5 words that best describe interreligious relationships in history? Choose one of these words and explain why you included it on your list.

Additional suggested activities:

• Look through this week’s headlines: Which stories fall into Huntington’s view of religious interaction? Which stories fall into this alternative view of religious interaction?

Reading required for Canvas version of the course:

• “Clash of Civilizations” by Samuel Huntington

Additional recommended reading:

• Nostra Aetate
• “Leader 1 Resource: Faith Heroes”, Unitarian Universalist Association