

THE KNAPSACK INSTITUTE

- **Transforming Teaching & Learning**
- **A three-day summer institute focused on inequality and social justice**

As our nation becomes increasingly diverse, it is imperative to have the understanding and resources to effectively navigate discussions about diversity and inequality in the classroom and workplace. Race, class, gender and sexuality are highly personal and emotionally-laden subjects. They may evoke a range of responses, from hostility and anger to guilt and depression.



The Institute will prepare you to preempt and manage such responses and be better prepared. Our goal is to provide you with the tools, knowledge and support to create an inclusive and empowering educational setting and experience.

Participants

The Institute is designed for educators (K-12 & higher ed), trainers, facilitators and activists. Past participants have included K-12 teachers, human resource managers, public safety staff, state employees, diversity trainers, non-profit staff, and college faculty from disciplines as diverse as sociology, math, nursing, English, and engineering. **Evaluations are consistently outstanding.**



"The workshops were a transformative experience for me, professionally and personally. It left me stirring in one way, and peaceful in another. I walked away feeling re-energized and re-focused. It was so moving to find a space in the academy for intense, emotional, work like this.!"

What does the Knapsack Institute Provide?

- A “knapsack” full of tools to use in teaching the concepts of privilege and oppression
- Hands-on activities to replicate in your own organization or institution
- Concrete strategies and contemplative practices that encourage growth
- Framework for understanding diversity intersections (race, gender, etc.)
- Pedagogical approaches to teaching diversity
- A supportive forum for sharing ideas and strategies



Core Curriculum Topics

- Setting the Scene for Effective Dialogue
- Facilitating Difficult Discussions
- Dealing with Resistance
- Curriculum Transformation
- Building Support for Inclusion and Diversity in Organizations

Specialized Workshop Topics

- The impact of race and gender on students' evaluations of educators
- Issues facing both white teachers and teachers of color
- Transgender issues
- Track for K-12 educators
- Bullying and Microaggressions
- Creating inclusive environments
- Culturally responsive practices
- Ally building

For More Information

www.uccs.edu/knapsack
 719-255-4764
knapsack@uccs.edu

Ask how you can bring this program to your organization.

“I appreciated specific strategies for teaching & dealing with resistance among students in specific areas (i.e. Trans101).”

Foundation of the Knapsack Institute

“I have come to see white privilege as an invisible package of unearned assets which I can count on cashing in each day, but about which I was ‘meant’ to remain oblivious. White privilege is like an invisible weightless knapsack of special provisions, assurances, tools, maps, guides, codebooks, passports, visas, clothes, compass, emergency gear, and blank checks.”

(Peggy McIntosh, 1988 “White privilege and male privilege: A personal account of coming to see correspondences through work in women’s studies.” Excerpted from Working Paper 189, Wellesley College Center for Research on Women, Wellesley, MA.)