



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 1: Introduction to Interfaith Leadership

Module 1.1: Defining Interfaith Leadership

This first module defines Interfaith Leadership, citing historical examples, and highlights the civic relevance of Interfaith Leadership for today's world.

[Video \(4 min\)](#)

Student Learning Objectives:

- Begin to identify one's own source of motivation to be an interfaith leader
- Name the three components of interfaith leadership

Discussion Questions:

- What ideas in the video introducing Interfaith Leadership excited you? Surprised you? What was the most revealing?
- Take a moment to self-assess: where do you think you are in your development as an interfaith leader vis-à-vis the three components: vision, knowledge, skillset?

Activities required for Canvas version of the course:

- Quiz: Select one of the readings and identify the vision, knowledge, or skills of interfaith leadership shared or represented.

Additional suggested activities:

- Read what other students have written about their own interest in this course and respond on the class discussion board.
- Share sources of your commitment to cooperating with people who are different from you and your motivations for interfaith leadership by creating a [Pinterest](#) board and posting a link to the discussion board.
- Begin to describe some of the conditions that motivate you in your life right now.
- Complete all four readings and identify the vision, knowledge, and skills for each.

Reading required for Canvas version of the course:

- Martin L King: [Nobel Prize Acceptance Speech](#)
- "[Gandhi and Comparative Religion](#)" by Manisha Barua
- Dalai Lama, [Selections from *Toward a True Kinship of Faiths*](#)
- Dorothy Day: "[The Mystery of the Poor](#)"

Additional recommended reading:

- "[Pilgrimage to Nonviolence](#)" by Martin Luther King, Jr.