

Key Resources for Building Interfaith America



At Interfaith America, we believe that religious diversity is a foundational American strength. When we positively engage this diversity, we can address the major challenges of our communities and our nation.

The following resources are intended to provide support as you:

- envision what interfaith America looks like in your context;
- identify needs and assets in your community;
- plan interfaith initiatives that capitalize on local assets while addressing expressed needs; and
- leverage the power of interfaith cooperation to build a better world for all.

Should you need additional support, please don't hesitate to reach out: info@interfaithamerica.org.

To build interfaith America, we...

...bring together people of different faiths, worldviews, and traditions in compelling projects that contribute to the common good and make space for powerful storytelling and relationship building.

Creating Spaces for Interfaith Cooperation

This video explores how to successfully create opportunities for interfaith cooperation. It includes best practices for creating and assessing interfaith-friendly projects.

Building on Existing Strengths

Design your work in a way that builds on existing community strengths and resources.

Partnering with the Community

Read about creative ways colleges and universities have engaged with surrounding communities through an interfaith lens.

Popular Interfaith Student Events

Explore popular ideas for interfaith events, including service projects.

INTERFAITH AMERICA IN ACTION

Emory University, Atlanta

Interfaith groups of students from Emory University came together to address their communities' COVID-19 vaccination needs as part of Interfaith America's [Faith in the Vaccine](#) initiative. They partnered with local community and health care organizations to bring multiple vaccine clinics to a food pantry pick-up and a center for individuals experiencing homelessness. Their outreach included weeks of trust-building conversations, surveys to understand local needs, and bilingual resources. The work resulted in hundreds of vaccinations, new interfaith bonds, and skills for future leadership.



To build interfaith America, we...

...foster conversations that help people deepen their relationships with their own traditions and their relationships with others at the same time.

“Talk Better Together” Guide

“Talk Better Together” is an activity that can be easily integrated into almost any interfaith gathering to promote meaningful interfaith exchange.

Facilitating Interfaith Dialogue

Facilitating dialogue is one of the most important skills of interfaith leadership. This video introduces methods to facilitate conversation and move discussion into action.

Shared Values Facilitation Guide

Use this tool to discuss values, experiences, and commitments that connect people of different religious and non-religious backgrounds.

Hosting an Interfaith Potluck

This short guide suggests a simple way to bring people together for interfaith exchange.



INTERFAITH AMERICA IN ACTION

Wiley College, Marshall, Texas

Wiley College and neighboring Jarvis Christian College are only 58 miles apart. However, historical dynamics have kept their students from engaging in conversation across the institutions' differences. To bridge this gap, Wiley College plans to bring the campuses together for meaning-making experiences facilitated by campus faith leadership. The initiative will equip students to foster mutual care and curiosity across geographic and denominational differences to form a more expansive, respectful, and inclusive community. Following this pilot, Wiley College hopes to convene students across all nine of Texas' historically Black colleges and universities to engage in caring community.

To build interfaith America, we...

...prepare students for a religiously diverse world and develop interfaith leaders.

Faculty Resources

Search our Courses, Curricula and Tools library, filtering by “Faculty,” to discover a diverse range of curricula, activities, and assignments that promote interfaith and interreligious learning.

Interfaith Student Learning Outcomes

Review examples of student learning outcomes being used by various institutions for a diverse range of curricular interfaith programs.

Case Studies for Exploring Interfaith Cooperation

This toolkit provides several case studies around the real-life challenges of religious diversity, along with a guide for their use in the classroom.

Interfaith Leadership Video Series

This full-course, video-based curriculum covers foundational concepts of interfaith cooperation, the history of American religious diversity, and stories of inspiring leaders.

INTERFAITH AMERICA IN ACTION

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, Illinois

At UIUC, a religious studies professor and the Vice President of Diversity partnered with the Veterinary Medicine Faculty to create a [course on religious diversity in veterinary medicine](#) using real-life case studies to build interfaith competencies. As students discussed Hindu sacred cows and Indigenous non-ownership of animals, they interrogated important questions regarding animals, the environment, and different worldviews’ perspectives around human responsibilities for each of these. The course provided essential information for work in a quickly diversifying field and enabled students to consider their own worldviews in the context of their future profession.



Additional Resources

The following is a sample of additional resources we can offer to support your work. If you are unable to find what you need here, search our [full library of resources](#) or contact us at info@interfaithamerica.org.

- Campus Interfaith Inventory
- Designing Interfaith Activities for your Campus Type
- Engaging Secular Students in Interfaith Cooperation
- Evangelical Christians in Interfaith Cooperation
- Experiential and Engaged Learning in Interfaith and Interreligious Studies Courses
- Five Key Takeaways from the Interfaith Diversity Experiences & Attitudes Survey
- How Interfaith Works on Christian Campuses: ‘Be Brave and Move Forward’
- Interfaith at Public Universities: Promising Practices
- Interfaith Engagement and Orientation Programs
- Mapping Interfaith Cooperation to Your Campus Mission and Values
- Religious Accommodations and Policies on Campus (Examples)



The Essentials

These resources are useful across a wide variety of interfaith initiatives.

Host events that are interfaith friendly

A guide to making your events welcoming ones.

Boost interfaith literacy

This resource offers information about a variety of worldviews.

Share what we mean by “interfaith”

Introduce new partners to “interfaith” with this short video.