



## Session III B, July 23-25, 2018

### **41. Robust Civility: Ethical Conflicts and Intercultural Responses**

*How can we retain respect for other cultures, yet be true to our own moral convictions?*

Cultural relativity requires the ability to perceive the world from multiple perspectives, with a consequent reluctance to judge or intervene in the behaviors and beliefs of cultures other than our own. This principle has been of fundamental importance in today's multicultural vision. But in our ever more culturally complex world, it has come under increasing strain as people struggle to respond appropriately to such seemingly objectionable practices as child marriage, female circumcision, and many forms of perceived discrimination and social injustice.

This advanced course will examine the development of the principle of cultural relativity and, using a wide range of contemporary examples, explore the possible limits and contradictions inherent to this idea, as well as offering suggestions regarding a path forward. Combining theory with hands-on experiential learning and ongoing self-reflection, the course aims to equip you with insights-to-action approaches to building and sustaining Robust Civility in their communities, organizations, and personal relationships.

**Designed for:** Advanced interculturalists

#### **Workshop Objectives**

You will have the opportunity to:

- Examine the development of the principle of cultural relativity
- Explore the possible limits and contradictions inherent to this idea, as well as offering suggestions regarding a path forward
- Equip participants with insights-to-action approaches to building and sustaining Robust Civility in their communities, organizations, and personal relationships

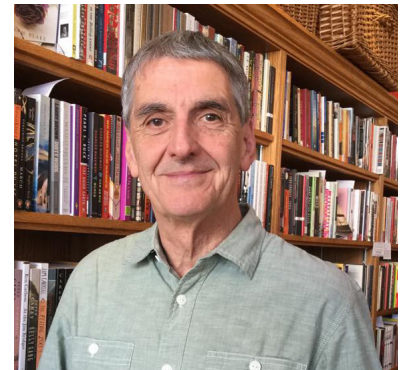
#### **Learning Activities**

- We will explore theories of cultural relativity and civility
- Participate in hands-on experiential learning
- Participants will be given time and support for ongoing self-reflection



**Tatyana Fertelmeyster** is the founder and principal of Connecting Differences, providing intercultural communication and diversity training to corporate clients, educators, and mental health professionals both nationally and internationally. She specializes in teaching facilitators how to conduct trainings, meetings, and other group processes. As a Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor, her professional experience includes providing resettlement services to refugees and counseling to individuals and families going through cultural transitions.

**Dr. Richard Harris**, born in London, UK, is a professor of intercultural management at Chukyo University in Japan, where he has lived for over 38 years. Richard's eclectic research interests range from the influence of physical and psychological space on intercultural encounters to the representation of ourselves and the other in media, museums, tourism, and interpersonal interaction. He is the author of *Paradise: A Cultural Guide*, a study of cross-cultural concepts of the ideal. His latest paper, on *Rethinking Cultural Relativity*, was given at the 2016 American Anthropological Association Conference and will be published later this year.



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