



Qatar Institute for Intercultural Communication

Education City – Doha – Qatar

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Becoming Global Souls: Teaching About Curiosity

Being global souls and seeing ourselves as members of a world community, requires the ability to learn from the culture around us. Education City in itself reflects that world community, populated by potential global souls. You are discovering culture every day.

Psychologist George Kelly suggests that “It is not what happens around him that makes a man experienced; it is the successive construing and reconstruing of what happens, as it happens, that enriches the experience of his life.” The key to this construal is curiosity, knowing we have reached the limits of our comprehension, and seeking further understanding.

As educators in global institutions, we are frequently asked to prepare others to be curious across cultures, both on campus and off. We will explore the importance of curiosity in our work, suggesting activities and approaches for programs, as well as supplying you with a curiosity toolkit of exercises and course assignments designed to develop curiosity in your classroom.



Dr. Janet Bennett is executive director of the Intercultural Communication Institute, sponsor of the Summer Institute for Intercultural Communication, and director of the Master of Arts Degree in Intercultural Relations. She specializes in developing theory and training methods for individuals who teach, train, or manage across cultures. As an educator and consultant, she designs and conducts intercultural programs for colleges and universities, corporations, social service agencies, and international education associations. She teaches at Portland State University, University of the Danube (Austria), University of Groningen (The Netherlands), and Aoyama Gakuin (Japan). She has recently edited the SAGE Encyclopedia of Intercultural Competence.

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