

Apply for ELITE's FY21

Fall Cohort

Dialogue Circles:

"Exploring 'Me and White Supremacy"

In four 2-hour Zoom sessions you'll engage in a learning community committed to self-reflection through journaling, guided by intense questions framed by author, Layla F. Saad in her book: "Me and White Supremacy: Combat Racism, Change the World, and Become a Good Ancestor." The intention of these Dialogue Circles is for those identifying as holding white privilege to co-create space to do their inner work in order to participate fully in social justice initiatives toward equity and inclusion. Complete and submit the application form for this cohort, then ELITE will complete your registration for each dialogue session.

Class is limited to 16 people and self-facilitated using The Circle Way approach: **A Leader in Every Chair**. ELITE is simply the convener in charge of logistics (timing, budget, Zoom and MCLearns). Each participant is asked to complete pre-work of reading the text and journal writing (at their own pace) to be present and accountable in each dialogue. The journal pre-work requires thoughtful examination of your journey of socialization and racial identity formation; relationships; incidents enacting privilege, collusion, inclusion or exclusion; the structure and everyday behaviors of racism; and confronting white supremacy--internally, interpersonally, institutionally and systemically.

These times call every person benefiting from white privilege to deepen awareness and recognize thoughts, assumptions and behaviors that perpetuate inequity. This journal and dialogue process has the potential to deepen commitment and shift behaviors in partnership with Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC, per Saad) to dismantle systems of racial injustice.

Participants are asked to buy the book on their own and read Part I prior to Session 1, as well as online materials on The Circle Way. In terms of writing, you'll work at your own pace, though are encouraged to write significantly prior to each session. Upon completion of the class you'll be emailed a reimbursement form to submit to the Cashier for the cost of the book. Participants who fulfill requirements will receive Certificates of Completion.

Have you been challenged to step up, speak up and take action as the current movement for social justice evolves? Consider also undertaking the continuous work of self-exploration and building solidarity and commitment among white-identified people. It's imperative that BIPOC are not also doing the work of educating white folks as they take leadership. Join a Dialogue Circle, or start your own. After four sessions, participants in this Dialogue may leave the Circle or re-contract with each other to continue shared work.



Class Schedule: Four Mondays, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m., via Zoom



Fall: 10/19 & 26, 11/9 & 16, 2020

Deadline for FALL Application: Monday, October 12, 2020.



Spring: TBD

Deadline for SPRING Application: TBD.

For more information, contact Laura White, Training and Development Coordinator at laura.white@montgomerycollege.edu. **Use MC LEARNS** to obtain application forms.



Professional Development

