



## United Nations Sustainable Development Goals Open Pedagogy Fellowship

### “National Portrait Gallery Assignment: Celebrating Diversity”

#### Academic Service-learning: Reducing Inequality in Our Community

**Introduction:** Open pedagogy - a component of Open Educational Resources - is a "free access" educational practice that places students at the center of their learning process in a more engaging, collaborative learning environment. The main objective of this assignment is to enhance social justice by reducing inequalities, one of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This is a renewable assignment designed to create an active and collaborative learning opportunity through which students can enhance their knowledge of (and appreciation for) the role of immigration and diversity in the creation of the American society throughout history. In this interdisciplinary assignment, students will integrate theories and practices from two academic disciplines, Communication Studies and Business Administration, to achieve the SDG #10, Reduced Inequalities.

**Instructions:** In groups of 3, students will tour the National Portrait Gallery. Each group will choose a person whose portrait is exhibited in the gallery.

Groups will research the life, work, and contributions of the selected entrepreneur (or leader) and prepare a fifteen-minute presentation. Students are required to create an inspiring presentation, explaining how the selected entrepreneur/leader overcame challenges and obstacles in his/her personal life and/or career and draw lessons from them. Students are encouraged to choose an entrepreneur, leader, or cultural icon with whom they relate (i.e., a person who had similar experiences in his/her life as they have and faced similar challenges and setbacks etc.).

Students are required to publish their work using social media, celebrating diversity by creating and sharing a free and accessible source of inspiration and education for students all around the world. Students are also required to present a strategy for effectively communicating and promoting their work to the intended audience.

Groups will visit the National Portrait Gallery during the fifth week of the semester and will present their reports during the fourteenth week of the semester.

“National Portrait Gallery Assignment: Celebrating Diversity” by [Ali Alavi and Andrée Betancourt](#) is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License](#).

