



Current and Past Training Workshop Descriptions

www.diversity.ucf.edu

ABCs of Discrimination (three 2.5-hour sessions)

In past years, ABC News Exposes addressed the issues of racism, ageism, and discrimination based on gender, looks, and voice. Using the original films, this three part series examines where we were “then” and explores what, if any, progress has been made to alleviate discrimination.

ABCs of Diversity (one 3-hour session)

Human diversity impacts each of us on a daily basis. Gaining an understanding of differences and similarities is essential for effective functioning in today’s work environment. This program focuses on the dimensions of diversity and illustrates how stereotypes and biases get in the way when creating a diverse and inclusive space for all employees. Participants develop ABC action plans for enhancing awareness of and appreciation for diversity.

Allies Advance (one 2.5-hour session)

Learn about issues affecting GLBT people, homophobia and heterosexism, and the benefits and responsibilities of being an Ally.

Assessing Your Cultural Competency Quotient (CCQ) (one 2-hour session)

How culturally competent are you? Cultural competency is defined as the ability to function effectively in the presence of social-cultural diversity. This workshop explores where you are on your cultural competency journey and provides some ways to expand your awareness and understanding in meeting the needs of an increased multicultural society.

BARNGA (one 2-hour session)

Barnga is a simulation activity that allows participants to explore and experience the challenges and communication barriers of life in a cross-cultural setting. Participants will recognize the subtlety of cultural differences, understand how cultural differences can create communication barriers, and discover and discuss ways to overcome communication barriers.

Body Image and the Race for Perfection (one 3-hour session)

Have our views of physical beauty changed over the past decade? Are we, as a culture, more aware of the hazards of excessive thinness and the sometimes overwhelming desire to be flawless? Killing Us Softly 3, The Strength to Resist, and Beauty Mark each provide a unique glimpse of how women’s views of body weight and physical perfection have been impacted over the last ten years through exposure to mass media and advertising, significant family relationships and reinforced values, and the drive for fitness. All three films will be shown with follow-up discussions.

Building and Sustaining an Inclusive Classroom (one 3-hour session)

Inclusive classrooms have been described as “classrooms in which instructors and students work

together to create and sustain an environment in which everyone feels safe, supported, and encouraged to express their views and concerns. They are places in which thoughtfulness, mutual respect, and academic excellence are valued and promoted.”

Center for Research on Learning & Teaching, University of Michigan

This workshop identifies barriers to building inclusive classrooms and assists faculty members in developing plans for creating classrooms that work for everyone.

Bullying in the Workplace (one 3-hour session)

Do you ever wonder what happens to the bullies who seem to be a part of everyone’s childhood experiences? Do they just stop bullying, or do they grow up and become people we work with and sometimes for? In this facilitated session, we look at bullying as a diversity issue, gain understanding of its costs, and discover how individuals and organizations can begin to address it.

The Color of Fear (three 3-hour sessions)

The Color of Fear films provide a powerful look at the impact of race and sexual orientation on the lives of eight men of various ethnicities. Through personal stories and interactions, we gain a glimpse into the fears, the stereotypes, and the moral issues that are confronting and dividing us in our society today.

Communicating Across Cultures (one 3-hour session)

This workshop combines and summarizes key information from Open Heart Dialogue and More Than Mere Words. Please see the descriptions for these sessions.

Communication in the U.S. Workplace: A Workshop for Native Spanish Speakers (one 2-hour session)

This workshop, conducted in Spanish, focuses on common misunderstandings and concerns encountered by Native Spanish speakers who work at UCF. Further, the session helps participants develop an action plan to address specific issues.

Courageous Conversations (six 2-hour sessions)

Courageous Conversations is a six module series that presents a holistic approach to communicating across differences. It includes self-exploration, identifying barriers to effective verbal and non-verbal communication, and developing skill-building strategies by which courageous conversations can become routine.

Creating Teachable Moments: A Workshop for Workshopping! (one 3-hour session)

Many everyday experiences of microaggressions, bigotry, and discrimination go unchallenged. There are many reasons for not interrupting them. Beyond reasons of safety, our inaction is often fear or lack of “tools to address” the issue. This workshop will examine the reasons for our “lack of action” as well as provide participants with tools in creating their own “teachable moments.” This is a highly interactive experience with self-assessment, problem-solving, and role-playing.

DiSC Behavioral Styles Profile (one 3-hour session)*

The foundation of personal and professional success lies in the understanding self, understanding others, and realizing the impact of personal behavior on the people around you. The DiSC

Behavioral Styles Profile enhances interpersonal communication by providing a non-judgemental language for exploring behavioral issues across four primary dimensions: dominance, influence, steadiness, and conscientiousness. In this workshop, participants will identify their predominant styles and will learn ways to work well with all of the styles. *This workshop requires an interdepartmental transfer or cash/check payment of \$22.

Diversity Certificate Series (certificate program – four 2-hour sessions)

The world looks different today than it has in the past, and as a consequence, new ways of interacting and communicating with others are required. This four-part program focuses on the legal, ethical, and practical issues organizations face in this dynamic new environment while demonstrating how we can use human diversity to maximize competence and performance. Modules: (1) On the Threshold of Change, (2) Gender & Sexual Orientation Workplace Issues, (3) Race, Ethnicity, Language & Religion Workplace Issues, and (4) Age and Physical Ability Workplace Issues.

Diversity Discussion Group (1-hour sessions)

On a daily basis, events on the UCF campus and in the local, national, and international communities reflect how we, as individuals and groups, interact in a diverse world. These sessions are designed to provide a respectful forum in which participants may share their thoughts on and feelings about diversity-related happenings. NOTE: Please bring a current event to each meeting, and be prepared to discuss the implications for understanding and appreciating diversity and inclusion.

Diversity Journals in the Classroom (one 2-hour session)

Our thoughts and feelings about diversity-related experiences often are complex and personal. By keeping a daily journal dealing with conversations we have had, current materials we have read, movies and television shows we have seen, music we have listened to, and so forth, we become focused on what we believe about the diverse people that inhabit our worlds. This session assists faculty in using journals as a classroom strategy to help students grow in their understanding and appreciation of human differences.

Diversity in Personal Learning Approaches(one 3-hour session)

Learning is key in any academic setting. Yet, not all individuals learn in the same way. People learn information for different purposes, prefer the information to be structured in various ways, and have preferences for how active they wish to be in their own learning process. In this workshop, participants take, score, and interpret the Personal Learning Insights Profile so that they will better understand their own personal learning approaches. Recognition is given to the fact that differences in learning approaches is just another way in which human diversity manifests itself. NOTE: Workshop requires an interdepartmental transfer of \$20.00. [Click here for ID transfer form.](#)

DOTS - Understanding Your “Hidden” Biases (one 2-hour session)

In order to appreciate, respect, and value others, it is important to recognize that our life experiences and the individuals in our lives have influenced our thoughts and feelings regarding the people present in our worlds. In this workshop, participants are guided through an activity that allows them to discover biases that may exist “in their heads.” Further, the session facilitates understanding of how these views impact the ways in which we relate to one another.

Empowered Inclusion™ Personal Performance Breakthrough (one 3-hour session)

When individuals implement the foundational principles of empowerment, sustained high performance results become the natural outcome. This flow to better results seems intuitive yet many people find themselves impeded by unconscious barriers, especially in the presence of diversity tension. To address these challenges, this workshop takes participants through an experiential exercise to learn the value of the foundational principles of empowerment and examines ways to break through two silent blockers of success.

Seminar objectives include:

1. Understand how FEAR and FAIR can become silent barriers to success.
2. Discover, through experiential exercise, the relationship between expanded responsibility, accountability, diversity and empowerment.
3. Create strategies to personally achieve sustainable, higher performance results through an empowered mindset.

Expanding Our Thinking – A Book Club (number and length of sessions varies)

“Today a reader, tomorrow a leader.”

Margaret Fuller

“Reading makes immigrants of us all. It takes us away from home, but more important, it finds homes for us everywhere.”

Jean Rhys

In an effort to increase cultural competency, the book club examines issues of diversity and inclusiveness via the written word – from non-fiction and literature to children’s books, poetry, and graphic novels. The club provides a safe space to pose topics and communally work through the exploration process. Finding answers is not the goal; instead, discussion and teamwork birth a set of common experiences and open eyes to new points of view

Facilitating Difficult Discussions (one 2-hour session)

When bigoted comments are made in the classroom, their impact can be significantly detrimental to the ongoing educational process. Additionally, faculty may have to cover topics and subjects, such as race or sexual orientation, which may trigger remarks that others may find offensive. This workshop examines some strategies and perspectives on how to conduct these difficult discussions in the classroom.

Families Created Out of Crisis (one 2-hour session)

UCF is pleased to welcome Cathy Robinson Pickett as she presents this interactive, educational, and emotional experience. This class will focus on working with individuals from non-traditional families and will examine how they function in our “modern world.” She will touch on HIV, domestic abuse, and core values. She will share her own personal story as a rape survivor and victim of domestic violence, as well as her experience of living with HIV for nearly 30 years.

First-Generation College Students (one 2-hour session)

First-generation college students, or students who are the first in their families to attend a post-secondary institution, are an increasingly significant force in higher education. These students often face unique challenges that may hinder their quests for degrees. As learners, they may

come to us with conflicting obligations, lack of preparation or support, and false expectations. This session examines principles of good teaching and instructional practice in order to help retain and enhance the success of first-generation college students.

Framework for Understanding Poverty (one 3-hour session)

Socioeconomic status or class is an often overlooked, but critically important, dimension of diversity. Since 1995, Dr. Ruby Payne's A Framework for Understanding Poverty has helped educators and other professionals understand individuals from all socioeconomic backgrounds- poverty, middle class, and wealth. This workshop provides an overview of Dr. Payne's work including the "hidden rules" among classes, the characteristics of generational poverty, and the significant role of available resources. NOTE: Workshop requires an interdepartmental transfer of \$10.00.

Gender Differences in Communication: Theories and Perspectives (one 3-hour session)

Gender differences in communication have been a source of fascination for many years. Popular books and videos by authors such as Deborah Tannen (You Just Don't Understand: Men and Women in Conversation), John Gray (Men Are From Mars, Women Are From Venus), and Pat Heim (Invisible Rules: Men, Women, and Teams) have offered convincing arguments that gender differences in communication do exist, and they have summarized just how these divergent styles manifest themselves. Yet, other writers such as Mark Tripp suggest that these differences may be insignificant or nonexistent for some types of communication. This workshop explores some of the more popular views on "masculine" and "feminine" communication styles.

Generational Diversity: Understanding the Gifts and Challenges (one 3-hour session)

In many workplaces, including institutions of higher learning, there exists four generations. Dealing with diversity and building organizations of inclusion require understanding and relating effectively with people who are different. The differences in age are no exception. Language differences, performance expectations, and work-life definitions are just a few of the challenges facing a "multigenerational workplace." This workshop explores the challenges and the gifts present around this critical dimension of diversity and addresses opportunities to build strength and unity into individual work areas to maximize performance.

High-Heart Work and Self-Care (one 3-hour session)

Human service work demands a lot from those who address and meet critical needs. Often, as we are caring for others, we forget the most important person, ourselves. This team building session examines how to create, maintain, and evaluate self-care plans for individuals and teams. It also looks at the process of what it takes to effectively provide the kind of support team members need in remaining "whole" in "high-heart" work.

The Illusion of Inclusion (one 2-hour session)

What does it mean to be inclusive? Is it something you can feel, or does it exist when certain diversity objectives have been met? This workshop explores the critical elements in building organizational inclusion and discusses how to determine whether their implementation creates real and sustainable change or merely reflects "the illusion of inclusion."

Inclusive Communication (one 2-hour session)

This workshop identifies some common mistakes made when communicating about age, class, disabilities, ethnicity, gender, language, looks, race, religion, and sexual orientation. It also high-

lights words, phrases, and behaviors that can enhance the process of communicating about and across various dimensions of difference.

Internalized Oppression & Subordination- The Doing and Undoing of it All (one 2-hour session)

Internalized oppression is the process where members of a target or subordinate group (people of color, women, LGBT persons, persons with disabilities, and the poor) take the lies, myths, and stereotypes that are said about them and internalize these thoughts, resulting in beliefs of self-hate, hate of one's own group, and feelings of powerlessness and hopelessness. This workshop will explore the process of internalized oppression and subordination, and its impact; personally, interpersonally, and institutionally, as well as the societal ramifications. Participants will leave with tools to recognize and address this important issue in an understanding of building inclusive and fair institutions and communities.

Interrupting Bigotry (one 2-hour session)

We all have had the experience of not knowing what to do when someone makes a joke or comment that is offensive. Do we confront them? Ignore them? What should we do? How do we challenge ourselves on our own hidden prejudices? This workshop offers suggestions about what to do in such circumstances. It also includes role-playing of some common, everyday situations.

Intersection of Faith and Sexual Orientation: Building Bridges of Respect and Understanding (one 3-hour session)

For many people of faith, nothing evokes more emotion than a discussion on what it means to be Lesbian, Gay, or Bisexual (LGB). LGB folks often find themselves at great odds with many of their religious colleagues and leaders because of who they are. How do we begin building bridges of respect and understanding on this issue? Is there a solution that is more effective than "hating the sin, but loving the sinner?" Although this session deals primarily with the many denominations of Christian faith, discussion time and resources for other world religions are provided.

I Want my Bi-Racial Bill of Rights! (one 2-hour session)

What happens when you're not white enough or black enough? Is it really as easy as picking a side? Is it easier for bi-racial or multi-racial people to be or has society demanded that because you don't belong totally to any one race or culture, you don't belong to any? This facilitated dialogue will explore the challenges of being bi-racial in a society that often demands more. We will use our time and the voices of our bi- and multi-racial audience and allies to create a "Bi-Racial Bill of Rights," supporting the right of every bi-racial person to be who they want to be.

Last Chance for Eden (two 3-hour sessions)

The Last Chance for Eden films show nine men and women who spend time talking about the impacts that racism and sexism have had on their lives. The comments and reactions of these individuals are compelling and revealing, as well as intimate and honest.

Leadership for the 21st Century (three 2-hour sessions)

This three session leadership series looks at three distinct aspects of leadership in modern organizations. Topics vary each semester.

The Micromessages of Communication and Their Impact on Team Performance and Student Success (one 3-hour session)

Micromessages are the small ways in which we communicate beyond the words we speak. Often framed in terms of microaffirmations, microinequities, and microgestures, each carries a message of inclusion, exclusion, or value. This workshop will focus on how micromessages occur and their effect on individual relationships, team performance, and student success. Strategies also will be discussed in addressing their impact.

Microaggressions- Manifestation, Dynamics, and Impact (one 2-hour session)

This important two-part leadership series is based upon the research and work of Dr. Derald Wing Sue. It expands on the previous Micromessages of Communication class to explore, as Dr. Sue states, “the damaging consequences of everyday prejudice, bias, and discrimination upon marginalized groups in our society.” These invisible but powerful forms of communication often render the receiver, and others who witness it, marginalized, threatened, and demeaned. Its consequences, personally, interpersonally, and organizationally, are measured in loss of individual performance, team dysfunction, and organizational turnover. This workshop also will provide tools for leaders in creating more inclusive environments for individual and organizational success.

More Than Mere Words (one 3-hour session)

A crucial component of any communication is the body language displayed by the parties involved in the interaction. This workshop focuses on cultural differences in expectations with respect to aspects of body language such as eye contact, posture, movement, gestures, facial expressions, and touch.

Multicultural Conflict Resolution (one 3-hour session)

Conflict is an inevitable part of life. Although many of us are uncomfortable in conflict situations, it can be a constructive process in which the very differences that give rise to the conflict also provide us with the unique perspectives and enhanced creativity that are needed in our complex world. This session explores general ways in which conflict is viewed in various cultures and specific ways in which we as individuals respond to conflict. It also emphasizes conflict resolution skills that are useful in relating to others who are different from us.

Negotiating the Critical Ps (one 2-hour session)

This workshop explores power, privilege, politics, and other dynamic constructs that influence success in diverse organizations.

Open Heart Dialogue (one 3-hour session)

The ability to prevent cultural misunderstandings through effective cross-cultural communication is an important skill in today’s world. This session introduces the three basic components of any communication. Further, it dramatically illustrates 12 common causes of misunderstandings across cultures including conventions for courtesy, degree of assertiveness, accents, and hot buttons.

“OUCH! That Stereotype Hurts” (one 2.5-hour session)

This workshop will allow you to explore in a powerful, unique way the impact of stereotypical comments in the workplace and why people don’t speak up against stereotypes and other biased behaviors.

Why is this important? Staying silent in the face of demeaning comments, stereotypes or bias allows these attitudes and behaviors to thrive. This undermines our ability to create an inclusive workplace where all employees are welcomed, treated with respect and able to do their best work. Yet, most employees and leaders who want to speak up don't know how. So, they say nothing.

In this experiential session, you will build knowledge and skills for speaking up against stereotypes and other biased behaviors without blame or guilt.

Presenter: Leslie Aguilar, Author of the best-selling "Ouch! That Stereotype Hurts" video and book

Power, Privilege, and Internalized Oppression: What Keeps us from the Dialogue? (one 2.5 hour session)

This workshop is a combination of two previous workshops, "Understanding Power and Privilege" and "Understanding Internalized Oppression." We will explore these concepts in a framework of dismantling both pillars of oppression through meaningful and thoughtful dialogue in creating communities of justice and inclusion.

Realizing the Potential of a Diverse Workforce (one 3-hour session)

Diversity management is a strategy to promote the perception, acknowledgement, and implementation of diversity in organizations and institutions. It recognizes that diversity opens up ways of perceiving, thinking, and acting that enriches the life of any organization. This session describes the principles of diversity management, the potential benefits of an effective diversity management program, and possible barriers in an organization that prevent a more balanced workforce. Strategies for inclusion also are discussed.

The Rise and Fall of Jim Crow (Certificate program four 4-hour sessions)

Based on the four-part DVD series, *The Rise and Fall of Jim Crow*, this workshop offers a comprehensive look at race relation sin the United States between the Civil War and the Civil Rights Movement. This workshop documents the context in which the laws of segregation known as the "Jim Crow" system originated and developed. Programs in the series include.

Program One: Promises Betrayed (1865-1896)

Program Two: Fighting Back (1896-1917)

Program Three: Don't Shoot Too Soon (1917-1940)

Program Four: Terror and Triumph (1940—1954)

Sexism, Motherhood, and the Motherlode (one 2.5-hour session)

What is sexism? How has the role of women changed over the last three generations? Can a woman truly balance the requirements of career and motherhood? Is that the real Motherlode? What about women who are not married or have no children? Do their colleagues view and treat them differently? This guided facilitation will explore the challenges and possible solutions in the workplace facing women and exactly what happens when Superwoman forgets her superhero cape.

Social Class Differences in the College Learning Environment (one 3-hour session)

"Class is an often invisible form of difference. Yet it is there all the time, affecting how and what students learn at every turn. It pervades the values and purposes of colleges and universities. It contributes to determining the

courses offered and the books read and discussed. Still it is a diversity issue rarely acknowledged.”

Lee Warren, Harvard University

This session addresses a wide range of considerations associated with class in the classroom. Points of discussion include how to recognize social class differences in the college learning environment, how class affects the achievement of students, and what faculty can do to help level the playing field so that all students are included to the greatest extent possible.

Stereotypes: Impacts on a Diverse and Inclusive Work Environment (one 3-hour session)

To truly respect and value diversity, it is essential that we recognize that our life experiences and the people in our lives have influenced our thoughts and feelings about others. In this interactive workshop, participants are guided through two activities that are designed to uncover biases that may exist “in our heads” and that may negatively impact those around us. Further, ways to effectively deal with stereotyping in the workplace are discussed. Note: This workshop contains activities from DOTS - Understanding Your “Hidden” Biases, and consequently, it is partially redundant to attend both sessions.

Understanding the Power of Internalized Oppression (one 3-hour session)

Internalized oppression is defined as the involuntary belief by people of a target group (women, transgendered people, people living with disabilities, people of color, Jews, Lesbians, Gays, Bi-sexual people, people living in poverty, etc.) that the stereotypes, myths, and lies about them are true. This workshop explores the power and consequences of internalized oppression and looks at what can be done to stop the cycle of oppression.

Understanding Power and Privilege (one 3-hour session)

This session looks at the concepts of power and privilege in detail and describes actions that can be adopted to mitigate the effects of social injustice.

“We’re in this Together!” Building Inclusive Spaces through Ally Relationships

(one 2.5-hour session)

The responsibility of building and sustaining spaces of inclusion and success in our work teams, organizations, and in our community belongs to all of us. The “art” of interrupting marginalizing behavior and challenging policies and processes that do not serve everyone requires awareness, knowledge and, most importantly, skills to successfully address and facilitate those conversations. This workshop will explore the difference between “ally acting” vs. “ally thinking,” and share skills and techniques for being an ally across multiple dimensions of identity.

“What If?” Crucial Conversations for Change (a series of 2-hour sessions)

Based upon Steve Robbins book, “What If? Short Stories to Spark Diversity Dialogue,” this monthly series will use these stories in a facilitated dialogue exploring the crucial conversations around diversity and inclusion. These conversations are often perceived as being “too political” or “too emotional,” but as the author points out, it provides “the difference between what we think we know and what we actually know.”

Peace Film Series

Body Image and the Race for Perfection (one 3-hour session)

Have our views of physical beauty changed over the past decade? Are we, as a culture, more aware of the hazards of excessive thinness and the sometimes overwhelming desire to be flawless? *Killing Us Softly 3*, *The Strength to Resist*, and *Beauty Mark* each provide a unique glimpse of how women's views of body weight and physical perfection have been impacted over the last ten years through exposure to mass media and advertising, significant family relationships and reinforced values, and the drive for fitness. All three films will be shown with follow-up discussions.

Chocolate City (one 3-hour session)

In 2003, over 400 families from the Arthur Capper's Housing Project in Southeast Washington D.C. were forced from their homes as part of a massive nation-wide redevelopment program. One group of women from Arthur Capper's began to build relationships with artists to find ways to tell their stories. This film explores the experiences of these women and weaves in the work of playwright Anu Yadav, whose one-woman show bears witness to the human rights violations that have occurred since the redevelopment program began.

Crash (one 3-hour session)

Issues of race and gender cause a group of strangers in Los Angeles to physically and emotionally collide in this drama revolving around the stories of a collection of interrelated characters including a police detective with a drugged-out mother and a thieving younger brother, two car thieves who are constantly theorizing on society and race, the white district attorney and his irritated and pampered wife, a racist white veteran cop (caring for a sick father at home) who disgusts his more idealistic younger partner, a successful Hollywood director and his wife who must deal with the racist cop, a Persian-immigrant father who buys a gun to protect his shop, a Hispanic locksmith and his young daughter who is afraid of bullets, and more. *Crash* provides a powerful glimpse at the costs of prejudice, bigotry, and intolerance.

Day Without a Mexican (one 3-hour session)

How do you make the invisible, visible? You take it away. One morning California wakes up to find that one third of its population has disappeared. A thick fog surrounds the State and communication outside its boundaries is completely cut off. We soon discover that the disappearance of 14 million people is all Hispanic. California is in shock. The economic, political, and social implications of this disaster threaten the Golden State's way of life. Misunderstandings and humorous situations abound, making this a comedic satire...a modern tale, lesson included. This film is rated R.

Freedom Writers (one 3-hour session)

Assigned the thankless task of teaching freshman English at a gang-infested Long Beach, CA high school, a 23-year old teacher, Erin Gruwell, resorts to unconventional means to break through to her hardened students. Her students had been written off, and her chances of succeeding scoffed at, but Gruwell wasn't about to go down without a fight. This film, based on a true story, provides a unique perspective on the dynamics of power and privilege as both students and teacher learn to rely on each other to expand the realm of possibilities.

Murderball (one 2.5-hour session)

The documentary “Murderball” tells the story of a group of world-class athletes unlike any ever shown on screen. In addition to smashing chairs, it will smash every stereotype you ever had about the disabled. It is a film about family, revenge, honor, sex (yes, they can) and the triumph of love over loss. But most of all, it is a film about standing up, even after your spirit- and your spine- has been crushed. This documentary is rated R for language and sexual reference.

People Like Us: Social Class in America (one 3-hour session)

This film discusses the impact that social class has on Americans and how it plays a role in all of our lives. The documentary follows the lives of Americans ranging from all walks of life and how they see social class in America.

Prayers for Bobby (one 3-hour session)

Academy Award nominee and Golden Globe winner Sigourney Weaver stars in this emotional true story about a 1970s religious suburban housewife and mother who struggles to accept her son Bobby being gay. What happens to Bobby is tragic and causes Mary to question her faith; ultimately this mom changes her views in ways that she never could have imagined.

Slumdog Millionaire (one 3-hour session)

Slumdog Millionaire is the story of Jamal Malik, an 18 year-old orphan from the slums of Mumbai, who is about to experience the biggest day of his life. With the whole nation watching, he is just one question away from winning a staggering 20 million rupees on India’s “Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?” But when the show breaks for the night, police arrest him on suspicion of cheating; how could a street kid know so much? Desperate to prove his innocence, Jamal tells the story of his life and his many dangerous adventures in the slum where he and his brother grew up. Each chapter of his story reveals the key to the answer to one of the show’s questions and what this young man with no apparent desire for riches is really doing on the game show. When the new day dawns and Jamal returns to answer the final question, the Inspector and sixty million viewers are about to find out.

The Help (one 3-hour session)

The Help is the story of three ordinary women, Skeeter, Aibileen, and Minny, set in Mississippi in 1962. Twenty-two-year-old Skeeter has just returned home after graduating from Ole Miss. She may have a degree, but her mother will not be happy until Skeeter has a ring on her finger. Aibileen is a black maid, a wise, regal woman raising her seventeenth white child. Something has shifted inside her after the loss of her own son, who died while his bosses looked the other way. She is devoted to the little girl she looks after, although she knows both their hearts may be broken. Minny, Aibileen’s best friend, is short, fat, and perhaps the sassiest woman in Mississippi. She can cook like nobody’s business, but she can’t mind her tongue, so she’s lost yet another job. Minny finally finds a position working for someone too new to town to know her reputation, but her new boss has secrets of her own. Seemingly as different from one another as can be, these women will nonetheless come together for a clandestine project that will put them all at risk. The Help is a timeless and universal story about the lines we abide by, and the ones we don’t.

Tough Guise (one 3-hour session)

“Tough Guise” examines the relationship between pop culture’s construction of masculinity and the reality of being a man in late 20th century American society. Social critic Jackson Katz hosts the program, arguing that there exists a contemporary crisis in masculinity. The media offers men certain “manly” roles to play, but these roles often play out violent and selfish attitudes, traits harmful to women. Using examples from pop culture, Katz makes his case for change and a broader definition of contemporary masculinity.
