

# North Central College MLK Day Teach-In Sessions

## Monday January 16, 2023

In-person sessions held at: North Central College Wentz Science Center, 131 S Loomis St, Naperville, IL 60540.

### 9:00 am sessions:

#### **My Ancestor's Dream: Creatives Materializing Justice (hybrid: zoom and in-person)**

Presenter: De'Janae Phillips, Undergraduate Student

**Room 104**

#### **Zoom information:**

- Link: <https://noctrl-edu.zoom.us/j/82518300943?pwd=Sk9od0UwWS9DbzBUSVp6VUpFYXQxZz09>
- Meeting ID: 825 1830 0943
- Passcode: 533374

Description: When communities become liberated, so does the imagination of the youth. To aid with the liberation, organizations and supporters will have to allow the youth the opportunity to build their future in non-contemporary methods that best support them and their communities, especially in "high-risk" communities. To create new approaches and centers that focus on restoring and building marginalized communities, senior student De'Janae Phillips will explore the role and effects of youth councils, self-expression, and local community organizations that are unique and focus on helping students. Participants will learn about the history of communities developing safe spaces that have contributed to the movement for justice.

#### **Love in the Black Political Tradition (in-person)**

Presenter: Dr. Sean Butorac, Assistant Professor of Political Science

**Room 254**

Description: Dr. Butorac's session will explore King's concept of love and its place in the broader tradition of Black political thought. Participants will first explore what King meant by love, the kinds of personal and political transformations that it requires as a radical practice. Participants will then consider how King's concept of love both relates to, and departs from, other concepts of love among Black feminists like Patricia Hill Collins and bell hooks, and thinkers like James Baldwin.

#### **Justice for All People: Disability Rights on our Campus and in American Society (in-person)**

Presenter: Dr. Nicole Rivera, Associate Professor of Psychology and Noah Cooperider, Student Disability Services Coordinator

**Room 256**

Description: Dr. King provided a guide for disability activism through his work and words, "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." Dr. Rivera will lead this session that explores interdependence, disabilities represented in our campus and our country, legal protections, and strategies for reducing ableism. The session will also focus on building a community that actively works to facilitate appropriate accommodation, provide people with equal access to campus, and create a sense of belonging. North Central and national disability data will be shared. Participants will learn best practices for supporting people with disabilities.

#### **Discussing Isabel Wilkerson's Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents (in-person)**

Presenters: Dr. Stuart Patterson, Associate Professor in the Shimer Great Books School

**Room 356**

Description: Dr. Patterson will facilitate a dialogue about Isabel Wilkerson's Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents. Wilkerson suggests that understanding the US specifically as a caste system will give us new insights into and thus new ways to address how racial inequity manifests and perpetuates itself. Participants will be able to envision a more just future by understanding the US-rooted caste system.

## **10:00 am sessions:**

### **Writing and Speaking That Matters: A Rhetorical Perspective on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr's Communication, Life, and Work (hybrid: zoom and in-person)**

Presenters: Kelli Jeanne Ling, Professor of Communication; Rev. Keith Kelsey-Powell, United Methodist Pastor

**Room 104**

#### **Zoom information:**

- Link: <https://noctrl-edu.zoom.us/j/86706443105?pwd=RHA5Rm83Q0xNVEY0cy9OdEZTS0tVQT09>
- Meeting ID: 867 0644 3105
- Passcode: 951548

Description: Professor Ling and Rev. Kelsey-Powell will be discussing Dr. King's vast knowledge of and mastery over the art of rhetoric in social agitation (both speaking and writing). His brilliance in communications, as well as ethics, still resonates with audiences today even though the demographics of U.S. society have changed substantially since the 1960s. They will look at his famous "I have a dream" civil rights speech in terms of rhetoric, as well as his fascinating Letter from a Birmingham Jail. His past rhetorical work, we posit, continues to resonate with modern audiences, especially when related to the Black Lives Matter movement and social progress. Moreover, Dr. King's words help us to understand and appreciate the ethical considerations of speaking out and how words have power. He reminds us to stay true to our values of equality and confronting of racism through intellectual discourse as well as non-violent social agitation.

### **The CARE Framework: Antiracist Principles and Practices (in-person)**

Presenter: Dr. Quanisha Charles, Associate Professor of English

**Room 254**

Description: Dr. Charles will lead this session using the CARE Framework. The CARE Framework provides a roadmap for an antiracist journey for all educators. Participants will learn the history and principles of the CARE Framework and how to incorporate antiracist practices into their curriculum and/or daily activities. This session will include a discussion that allows for community building and self-reflection.

### **How to be an Angelic Troublemaker (in-person)**

Presenters: Olivia Cichowlas and Marissa Rybinski, Undergraduate Students

**Room 256**

Description: Senior students Olivia Cichowlas and Marissa Rybinski's session will focus on the past generations who have fought for both the Black and LGBTQ+ communities. Olivia and Marissa will take a historical look at the timeline of what each movement has offered, both in their triumphs and their shortcomings. Participants will learn what was successful for past generations and how to build upon it in the current era, with the intended goal of inspiring the current generation to fight for both communities together.

### **From Dr. King to Gen Z: Whose Voices Engender Justice Now (in-person)**

Presenter: Dr. Jennifer Jackson, Associate Professor of English

**Room 354**

Description: Dr. Jackson's session will bring forward the voices of contemporary Black writers/scholars working to intervene, just before and post-2020, in ongoing injustices. Each asks what we can become, how we can work for real and lasting change, and whose hopes will be heard.

## **11:00 am sessions:**

### **Rays of the Sun: The Aju Association and an Indigenized Future (hybrid: zoom and in-person)**

Presenters: Dr. Matthew Krystal, Professor of Anthropology and Members of the Aju Association

#### **Room 254**

##### **Zoom information:**

- Link: <https://noctrl-edu.zoom.us/j/87134774873?pwd=Q0VpN1Zac1VJQ0NZNGtUdGK215dz09>
- Meeting ID: 871 3477 4873
- Passcode: 354055

Description: Dr. Krystal will lead this presentation which features virtual participation by members of Aju Association, an indigenous nongovernmental organization based in Quiacquix, Totonicapán, Guatemala. Aju Association is dedicated to community development that is culturally, economically, and environmentally sustainable. The presentation focuses on discrimination faced by the indigenous peoples of Highland Guatemala and the collective strategies employed to combat it and mitigate its effects. The speakers will address discrimination in language, dress, economy, and ecology. Dr. Krystal will serve as interpreter.

### **What's Love Got to do with It: A Practical Approach to King's Theory and Ethic on Love (zoom and in-person)**

Presenter: Rev. Dr. Geneace Williams, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Manager, City of Naperville

#### **Room 104**

##### **Zoom information:**

- Link: <https://noctrl-edu.zoom.us/j/85682098813?pwd=WERGckZaWUp2WmplQWhNQXMyWTE5QT09>
- Meeting ID: 856 8209 8813
- Passcode: 269147

Description: Dr. King's final book, Where Do We Go From Here: Chaos or Community, is arguably one of the great works King authored during his lifetime. Despite its tone, it is still apparent King saw love as a moral imperative, and his beloved community was/is an impossibly absent a love ethic. To a great extent, the radical love King spoke about has yet to be realized. Facilitated through the lens of a lawyer, ordained minister, and now DEI practitioner, participants will consider one approach to DEI and leave the session challenged to consider whether and how King's theory has merit and possibility in the reality of 2023 and beyond.

### **Strategies for Reducing Biases in Educational Classrooms (in-person)**

Presenter: Rev. Floyd Knight, Campus Safety Officer and Pastor in Disciples of Christ Church

#### **Room 356**

Description: Rev. Knight will discuss strategies for reducing biases in educational classrooms, specifically how to identify inherent cognitive biases. By understanding and identifying the biases people experience, we can bring people together to create a more inclusive and just community using a bottom-up, egalitarian, proactive, andragogy-centered process to be collectively studied and implemented.

### **Changing the Conversation and Education for the Future (in-person)**

Presenter: Nina Patience, Undergraduate Student

#### **Room 354**

Description: Having a conversation about race, gender, sexuality, etc. with someone can be difficult and uncomfortable. Generation gaps can add to the difficulty of the conversation. Senior student Nina Patience will lead a roundtable discussion on closing the gap of understanding between older and younger generations surrounding current topics including gender, sexuality, race, and ethnicity, and how we as a younger generation can help to teach the older generations what we are learning socially and in school.

### **The POWER of Words (in-person)**

Presenter: Danielle Langford, Instructor of Management

**Room 256**

Professor Langford will lead a discussion on the POWER of words; and the necessity to speak. The reason we have "a dream" so to speak is because Dr. Martin Luther King had a voice. This is a matter of the continuation of inclusion.