Beyond the Walls of JMU: The Many Faces of the Adult Learner: At School, at Work and in the Community
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Background

- This book club is unique in that it will bring together students enrolled in a JMU graduate course, working professionals, leaders in the field of Human Resource Development, and citizens of the community who may not work in professional jobs.

The goal of the book club is address issues of diversity, beyond the campus and in the communities where students live, work and collaborate.

Purpose

- This book club attempts to address the limited exposure students have had with members of diverse backgrounds by fostering collaborations with and among community members, students, faculty, and staff.

Methodology

- These structured meetings will be used to discuss specific books (the books will be selected by the faculty) centered on topics of motivation, diversity, issues of perceptions, and strategies on how to live in a diverse community.

To use this book club as a springboard for exploring additional ways to foster collaborations between the community and members of the university.

The knowledge gained from the program will be assessed through a pre-and post-test survey.

Students will go out into the community to engage in conversations with individuals from a wide variety of ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds.

James Madison University Facts

- The University offers 124 degree programs

Conclusion

- The goal is to provide a non-traditional diverse classroom setting where individuals engage in intentional conversations about issues that have the potential to build community and a platform for participants to explore (real) issues of diversity in the community and the workplace.

Other references available upon request.