

### Week 3 - Message from the ABC Curriculum Committee

Members of the curriculum development team aimed to be consistent in applying critical and inclusive lens to our dialogue and to the development of the weekly prompts and content, and to meld our voices and perspectives during the development of this series. However, we acknowledge that we are diverse individuals on our own journeys of learning aimed at improving our selves and the world around us – we are imperfect and we are still growing and developing. As this is a pilot activity and program, we welcome your questions, feedback and additions to our developed questions and activities. To share questions, suggestions and feedback, please visit our [ABC Weekly Feedback Form](#) - we welcome your collaboration and perspective.

#### Guidance on the Weekly Schedule Activities

Based on facilitator and book club participant feedback, our team wanted to clarify the expectations and components of each week's distribution:

1. The weekly formal ABC discussions are *not* mandatory but are strongly encouraged for all DU community members (students, faculty, staff). All drop-in's and new members are welcome – this is a community AND individual process.
2. Based on the delay in e-book deliveries, several of our discussion groups are a week 'behind' (i.e., discussing Week 1 readings during Week 2), and that is ok! While our team is uploading content on a weekly basis, our groups are not on a strict schedule. We encourage everyone to be mindful of your group's process, needs and flow – **this is YOUR process**. Member of the ABC Curriculum and Steering Committees are here to provide guidance, suggestions and support.
3. Reviewing the weekly components:
  - a. Self-Reflection Questions: These are suggested reflection questions for you to keep in mind before, during, and after reading each chapter. You are not expected to 'submit' a reply to your facilitator or group, but if you would like to jot down some responses or share out during your group time, your thoughts and words could benefit the group process.
  - b. Discussion Prompts: The supplied topics and questions are provided to guide and/or jumpstart your weekly discussions. Each group's process and discussion will be unique.
  - c. Activities and Resources: These are provided as examples for "how" we can continue to exercise and expanding our anti-racist work and knowledge. If you have suggestions to be added to our list, please reach out to Katie Golieb, MSW, ABC Curriculum Chair, [Katie.Golieb@du.edu](mailto:Katie.Golieb@du.edu).

#### Some guidance as you launch into your group's journey:

- It is imperative for everyone to supported, recognized and respected as his, her or their authentic selves in each book club community. At the same time, it is important for members to be accountable to each other. We encourage you to consistently check in with one another to establish group norms and guidelines to establish and maintain a

supportive, inclusive and respectful space (example of book club schedule: personal check-ins, norms check-in from last week, dialogue, closing)

- While this is a space for learning and sharing, you are encouraged to take responsibility for your personal growth.
  - Acknowledge that when you ask peers, colleagues and friends to share their knowledge, stories and perspectives, they are sharing a valuable piece of themselves with you.
  - If you wish to explore a perspective, identity, or culture outside of your own, please take steps to develop your own knowledge first before entering an exploratory dialogue. Please reference the ABC website hosted by the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusivity for additional resources and means of connecting with available supports on your journey. It is not expected or acceptable to rely on a peer, colleague, friend or book club member to fill the gaps of your knowledge that stem from your own positionality. For example, it is unacceptable to depend on your own Latinx colleague to educate you about Latinx community and culture, and it is unacceptable to depend on LGBTQ peers to educate you about non-binary identities
  - We are all going to make mistakes along the way. We are all going to have to 'step back' at a point to care for ourselves and for our loved ones. We are all going to have bad days where we replay how we engaged with others and how we may have misspoken.
- We encourage you to practice grace and forgiveness, with yourself and with each other. We have a long journey and much work ahead of us. It will require our collective strength, wisdom, and mistakes to learn from and to build upon.