

Embracing Diversity: A Look in the Mirror

Americans are a diverse collection of faiths, creeds, and colors. Intolerance has, unfortunately, always been part of the American experience. Schools have always been vulnerable to this societal dilemma, and students sometimes have been—and still are—the victims of bias-related incidents.

Still, it's in schools where change can begin. As the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) handout *A National Tragedy: Promoting Tolerance and Peace in Children: Tips for Parents and Schools* suggests, “Adults can help children understand the importance of treating all people with dignity and not judging groups of people for the actions of a few.” Teachers are in a wonderful position to help young people understand that our nation is strong because of our diversity.

Course Goals and Objectives

After completing this course, you should be able to:

- Reflect on your own diversity beliefs.
- Gauge the harmony level of a school environment.
- Create a school culture that respects and embraces diversity.

Course Syllabus

<p>Module 1</p>	<p>The Challenge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Module Welcome • Reading: Facing Reality • Reading: It Starts at Home... • Reading: ...And Comes to School • Video: Multicultural Education • Application: Feelings About Diversity • Post-Module Reflection
<p>Module 2</p>	<p>The Power to Make Change</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Module Welcome • Reading: It's Never Too Early to Teach Tolerance • Reading: Developmental Stages of Differences Awareness—Babies to Teens • Reading: The Power to Make Change • Application: Teaching Tolerance • Post-Module Reflection
<p>Module 3</p>	<p>A Look in the Mirror</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Module Welcome • Reading: Willingness vs. Readiness • Reading: Classroom Environment • Reading: Overcoming Bias • Video: School Environment • Application: School Learning Environment • Post-Module Reflection

Module 4	Getting to the Roots of Intolerance <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Module Welcome• Reading: Nurture, not Nature• Reading: Survival and Belonging• Reading: Taking Action• Application: What Would You Do?• Post-Module Reflection
Module 5	Eyes on Your School <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Module Welcome• Reading: Not the Reality...• Reading: ...And Yet• Video: Rethinking Who We Are• Application: My Personal Community• Post-Module Reflection
Module 6	Taking Measure <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Module Welcome• Reading: Taking Action• Post-Module Reflection

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