

IDENTITY, POWER & JUSTICE

*Concentration
Overview/ Q&A*

Welcome:

As we wait to get started, please share your name, program, and the name (or link) to a song or piece of artwork that brings you energy or joy.

OUR PLAN FOR TODAY

- Introducing Ourselves
 - What is a concentration?
 - Why Identity, Power, Justice & Education?
 - Our roots & learning commitments
 - The technical stuff
 - Closing and Q&A
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WHAT IS A CONCENTRATION

- Opportunity to **network & build community** with other HGSE colleagues who have similar focus areas/commitments;
- **Support for navigating your time at HGSE, given your focus areas/commitments**; including: some theoretical scaffolding for your learning, opportunities for joint meaning making, and support translating your learning into commitments for your future work;
- A **curated set of opportunities** intended to help you meet a specific set of goals.

A concentration is not:

- A program or class that delivers ample content to develop expertise in the concentration domain
- Professional training for a specific role in the field;
- A prescribed set of requirements intended to ensure that you meet specific content-related outcomes.



Artwork by Ricardo Levins Morales

WHY IDENTITY, POWER, JUSTICE and Education (IPJE)

History has demonstrated the importance of collective action in the journey toward justice. While many educators talk about issues of equity and inclusion, the extent to which this talk is explicitly aimed at confronting oppression and injustice varies significantly. IPJE is a space for students who want to actively challenge and disrupt different forms of oppression – to interrupt and deconstruct inequitable power dynamics – as a part of their work.



IPJE Roots: Critical Traditions

- Relationships
- Deep expertise and a breadth of content knowledge about the historical and sociopolitical factors and power dynamics that shape and sustain systemic oppression.
- A consistent commitment to self-interrogation and processes for self-accountability.
- A range of skills (i.e., facilitation, collaborative, and participatory engagement) for transformation, disruption and recreating.
- Courage to envision a world that we have not yet seen and to withstand the resistance that comes with trying to disrupt and rebuild long-standing hegemonic structures.



Concentration Core Concepts

- Social identities are socially and historically constructed. Key facets of our social identity—like gender, social class, age, sexual orientation, race and ethnicity, religion, age, and disability—play significant roles in how we understand and experience the world and shape the types of opportunities and challenges we face. By committing to center identity in our work, we are committing to developing the capacity to understand our identities, histories, and cultures and their influence on our lives and to learn about the histories, epistemologies, cultures, and lived experiences of others.

Identify



- Power is: the ability to decide who or what will have access to resources; the capacity to direct or influence the behavior of others, oneself, and/or the course of events; and/or the power to define and name reality. Power imbalances are at the epicenter of injustice across social and ecological contexts. By centering power, we are committing to noticing how power operates in our lives and in institutions, structures, and systems across the globe and working to actively shift power so that it is more equitably distributed.

Power



- Justice includes creating and sustaining a more fair and equal society. By committing to center justice in our work, we are committing to gather tools to interrupt power imbalances and increase opportunity, and freedom. This includes deepening our relationship to ourselves, each other and the earth. Centering justice requires believing that we can transform our world and envisioning a reality we have never seen.

Justice



Education

Concentration Learning Domains:

How can the core concepts lead us in our learning across the year?



Identity

- Know & Love Self
- Know & Love Others



Power

- Commit to Historical & Structural Understanding



Justice

- Interrupt, Innovate & Imagine
- Be Love

Concentration Core Concepts

<https://bit.ly/3QQ6YWk>



Identify



Power



Justice



Education


Concentration Learning Domains:

Committing to the Learning Domains across the year




Identity

- Know & Love Self
- Know & Love Others



Power

- Commit to Historical & Structural Understanding



Justice

- Interrupt, Innovate & Imagine
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Core Concept	Learning Domain	Domain in Action	Committing to Domain in IPJE
<p>Identity</p> <p>Social identities are socially and historically constructed. Key facets of our social identity—like gender, social class, age, sexual orientation, race and ethnicity, religion, age, and disability—play significant roles in how we understand and experience the world and shape the types of opportunities and challenges we face. By committing to center identity in our work, we are committing to developing the capacity to understand our identities, histories, and cultures and their influence on our lives <i>and</i> to learn about the histories, epistemologies, cultures, and lived experiences of others.</p>	<p>Know & Love Self</p>	<p>We commit to building complex knowledge and understanding about our own multiple and intersecting social identities, histories, and cultures. Developing this understanding requires us to learn about our familial and cultural histories and the sociopolitical patterns that have shaped these histories. We work to recognize our own wisdom and strength as well as face truths about aspects of our identities that may offer us unearned privilege. We use this knowledge to recognize and disrupt both internalized oppression and internalized dominance in our beliefs and actions. We consistently ask ourselves how our identities shape our experience and position us to build toward a more loving and just world.</p>	<p>As an IPJE community member, you should engage in experiences/coursework that help you deeply explore aspects of your social identity (i.e., linguistic, national, geographical, socioeconomic, racial, sexuality, gender, etc.) and create opportunities for you to engage in personal analysis, reflection, and self-interrogation that is both rigorous and supported.</p>
	<p>Know & Love Others</p>	<p>We recognize that a just world requires working together across domains, contexts, geographies, and identities in support of collective liberation. We <i>actively</i> seek to learn the histories, epistemologies, and lived experiences of peoples, places, and identities outside of our direct experience so that we can act in solidarity and form revolutionary alliances in support of our collective well-being. We do this responsibly, with cultural humility, respect, and attentiveness to power and positionality. Knowing and loving others includes learning from and sustaining alliances with land and the natural environment.</p>	<p>As an IPJE community member, you should take at least one course that pushes you to deepen your knowledge about a community, place, identity, or context beyond your focal area of study. This course should challenge you to take an intersectional lens to thinking about injustice. For example, if you are working to become an expert in racism and racial justice, you should take at least one course about gender, language, environmental justice, or class.</p>


Concentration Learning Domains:

Committing to the Learning Domains across the year



Identity

- Know & Love Self
- Know & Love Others



Power

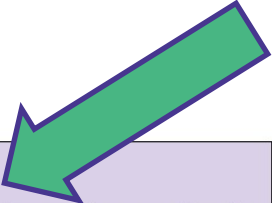
- Commit to Historical & Structural Understanding



Justice

- Interrupt, Innovate & Imagine
- Be Love

<p>Justice</p> <p>Justice includes creating and sustaining a more fair and equal society. By committing to center justice in our work, we are committing to gather tools to interrupt power imbalances and increase opportunity, and freedom. This includes deepening our relationship to ourselves, each other and the earth. Centering justice requires believing that we <u>can</u> transform our world and envisioning a reality we have never seen.</p>	<p>Interrupt, Innovate & Imagine</p>	<p>We commit to developing the courage, skills and critical hope to <i>envision</i> a world we have never seen. Knowledge is only as powerful as the action that follows. We give ourselves space to be creative, live freely, build anew, or resurrect the old. We seek out tools, frameworks, collaborators, and communities to innovate and imagine with. As we do this, we consistently, courageously, and strategically interrupt individual, institutional and systemic injustice in our daily lives, our professional work, and our communities.</p>	<p>As an IPJE community member, you should take at least one course that helps you develop expertise in specific methods or skills/pedagogies that have been used to dismantle oppressive systems (e.g., critical pedagogy, ethnic studies, critical research methods, transformative justice, storytelling, organizing) and/or envision and create just ones.(e.g., healing centered engagement, design-based thinking).</p>
	<p>Be Love</p>	<p>We commit to caring for the collective. We recognize that <u>love in practice</u> is itself resistance against systems of oppression. We <i>acquire and leverage</i> practices, tools, frameworks, and spaces that allow us to consistently care for ourselves and for each other. This care includes physical, emotional, mental health, psychological, and spiritual well-being. In addition, we commit to cultivating a loving relationship with our shared earth. As a community, we seek practices that hold us accountable for honoring our collective humanity, living in our authentic personalities and epistemologies, and making time for joy, laughter, connection, and relationships in <u>all</u> of our justice work.</p>	<p>As an IPJE community member, you should intentionally seek out learning experiences or coursework that are restorative/energizing or healing to you and help you tap into spaces of joy and meaningful relationships. We encourage you to carve out time for connection, whether to yourself, others, the natural world, faith, movement, or other generative forces.</p>



What does it mean to be a part of the IPJE community?

• Participation Expectations

1. Complete the 2-credit IPJE Convening (H619)
 - Full concentration: **9/9**, 9/19, 10/17, 11/14, 12/5 and May TBD
 - Pre-Assigned Small Groups **9/9**, 9/26, 10/24, 11/21
2. Complete 10 credits of additional IPJE coursework
3. Engage in at minimum three outside of course learning experiences focused on Identity, Power & Justice in Education, including an action-based initiative
4. Publicly present your learning journey in May

• Concentration Opportunities

- Reflection opportunities (independently & in community)
- A community of colleagues with shared commitments
- Weekly IPJE office hours run by the IPJE teaching team
- Lunch n Learns
- IPJE Community Teach-In
- Optional events hosted and planned by you
- An accountability structure toward your future work (e.g., final presentations)



Artwork by Students at Doerfler Elementary School as part of Artists Working in Education's (AWE) Artist-in-Residence program.

A note about coursework....

- HGSE does not have a large range of classes that center critical traditions – although, the number is growing 😊.
- As a HGSE student, you can take classes at any Harvard School, as well as MIT.
- Synthesizing what courses are offered, when, where and by who is a challenging task... we have tried to help you with that, by starting to curate a list for you. **You can also help each other by sharing info!**
- We have not taken all of the courses on this list or reviewed their syllabi – so it's important that you review the course description & contents and attend course previews to **make sure it's a good fit for your needs and learning style.**
- If you find a course that you would like to add to this list, please let us know.

<https://bit.ly/3C7IuDK>



Artwork by Students at Doerfler Elementary School as part of Artists Working in Education's (AWE) Artist-in-Residence program.

As we close...

REMEMBER

- **Concentration is for people pursuing any career trajectory who want to:**
 - Focus 25% of their coursework on courses that are about seeing, knowing and disrupting systems of oppression
 - Center core concepts/learning domains in their work
 - Can meet all the IPJE requirements
 - Is ready to take a critical approach in their HGSE journey
 - Is okay being a part of a community that is new, human and developing.

FAQ's

- You can take the concentration as PT student if you can finish all the requirements by the time of graduation.
 - IPJE is not explicitly focused on any geographic or cultural context. We hope to guide you toward coursework geared toward your focal context. And we want to acknowledge that both of us are rooted in the U.S. context, and likely to draw from that context.
 - IPJE is a yearlong commitment, with some individual or small group work necessary in the spring.
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OUR HOPES FOR THE IPJE COMMUNITY



- We hope to provide you with some support, guidance, and care as you **navigate** your year at HGSE. We will do our best with this, learning with (and from you) about what is needed as we move through our time together.
- We hope to provide you with a chance to process, make-meaning, draw connections, care for yourselves and each other, vision, and continue to build toward more just schools and communities.

Questions?
