

## Educating Students on Anti-Racism: A Gen-Ed Showcase

Sarah Powell and Mohammed Moafak (Algonquin)

In 2021, eCampusOntario provided financial support through the Virtual Learning Strategy (VLS) funding to develop four new inclusion and diversity general education and degree-breadth online courses. This presentation showcases the newly-developed course, *Anti-Racism: Theory and Practice*, presenting the general education version while describing the levelling differences to the degree-breadth version.

Within contemporary Canadian society, such a course is pertinent as it relates to matters concerning social justice issues. The objective of this course is to empower and inspire students to become proactive and authentic allies who possess the capacity to combat social justice issues. Individuals within Canadian society are more aware and informed about issues relating to social justice, as social media has become a vehicle of change in disseminating “the truth”. Now more than ever, students should be well-informed about Canada’s history, the evolution of systemic discrimination, and the intergenerational transmission of trauma and discrimination as it has influenced what we experience today. *Anti-Racism: Theory and Practice* promotes equity, diversity, and inclusion in an asynchronous, online learning environment using a variety of learning and teaching strategies. This showcase will conclude with an opportunity for Q&A and addressing considerations for addressing and supporting diversity in your own courses.

**Mohammed Moafak** has a Bachelor's Degree in social work and a Master's Degree in social work with a specialization in community development. Mohammed has been an instructor at Algonquin College in the Human Services Foundation and Community and Social Services program for two years. Mohammed utilizes his knowledge, education, and experience to advocate and support disadvantaged communities experiencing an array of barriers by employing a participatory action research approach.

**Sara Powell:** Specializing in course development, Sara supports faculty in the creation of curriculum documents, assessments, and learning materials. She has a Bachelor's Degree in education and a Master's Degree in education, specializing in second-language education. As a passionate lifelong learner, she also aims to improve learning and engagement for all students by utilizing principles of Universal Design for Learning (UDL) as well as her experience teaching international students and language learners.