

Ahimsa Timoteo Bodhrán*Intellectual Application Project Abstract*

The Critical Race Theory course design will be a project that merges my own interests as an interdisciplinary scholar and teacher with that of the larger Comparative Cultures and Politics curriculum at James Madison College. “Critical Race Theory: Law, Identity, and Power—History, Rhetoric, and Narrative” will serve as a bridge from the work JMC students have done during their first and second years towards their work as juniors and seniors, and their work as active community members, working professionals, and potential graduate students. Informed by national, international, and transnational perspectives, the course will trouble contemporary notions of the United States as a static, seamless national entity, and utilize comparative perspectives to show the intersections of race, class, gender, sexuality, religion/spirituality, and other lines of human difference as evidenced in historical and contemporary law and policy. The course will be informed by my work as a Comparative Ethnic Studies scholar, with particular groundings in Indigenous, Women of Color, and Queer People of Color Studies, and informed by the disciplines of Literary Studies, Rhetoric and Composition, and History in its theorization, pedagogy, and execution. Among the materials for the course will be a syllabus, various assignment designs, and assessment of the project. Part of the design of the course and reflection on its development will be interconstellated with a first-year intensive writing course taught in the College of Arts and Letters during the spring semester, which will have a similar, albeit different, Critical Race Theory focus and design. Dialogue with IIT faculty and fellows and with larger JMC faculty will be vital to development of the project.