

Rutgers DSW Program Syllabus

Module Title: Walking the Talk: Applying Liberatory Consciousness in Social Work Leadership

Instructor:

Residency:

Date:

Module Description:

This module promotes the development of a liberatory consciousness in social work leadership that advances individual, family, and community well-being and justice. Liberatory Consciousness is an awareness of oppression and an intentionality about changing systems of oppression (Love, 2010). The process for developing a liberatory consciousness includes four components: awareness, analysis, accountability, and action/allyship. Each member of our community is invited to develop a capacity to notice oppression; to think critically about what is noticed, why it is happening, and what needs to be done; to identify our individual roles in redressing oppression and steps that should be taken; and to take steps toward justice and to support each other in this pursuit.

Module Objectives:

1. To describe how liberatory consciousness is developed through four major components.
2. To examine the application of liberatory consciousness in one's clinical social work practice.
3. To develop a plan for evaluating liberatory consciousness in action; modifying one's practice as needed.

Required Readings:

1. Love, B. J. (2010). Developing a liberatory consciousness. In M. Adams, W. J. Blumenfeld, C. Casteneda, H. W. Hackman, M. L. Peters & X. Zuniga, (Eds.), *Readings for Diversity and Social Justice*. (pp. 533 -540). NY: Routledge.

2. Catalano, D. C. J. (2015) Beyond Virtual Equality: Liberatory Consciousness as a path to achieve trans* inclusion in higher education, equity & excellence in education, *48(3)*, 418-435, DOI: 10.1080/10665684.2015.1056763

Recommended Readings:

1. Comas-Díaz, L. (2021). Afro-Latinxs: Decolonization, healing, and liberation. *Journal of Latinx Psychology*, *9(1)*, 65–75. <https://doi.org/10.1037/lat0000164>

Module Assignments:

Due:

- In 250 to 500 words, reflect upon the readings and your area of clinical social work practice. How do you or could you conduct clinical practice using the liberatory consciousness framework?
- Also include one to two questions (not counted in the 250–500-word parameter), that emerged for you as you read the Love and Catalano articles.