

Tips for Multi-faith Engagement

- Religion. It's ok to ask! And...
 - Be respectful. Avoid making someone have to be a teacher for their own entire tradition or culture.
 - Ask people about their personal practices rather than their personal beliefs. Not all people within a religious or spiritual community practice in the same way.
 - Use "I" statements. Start by talking about yourself/your own tradition.
- Approach every conversation with a lens of curiosity: genuine respectful curiosity will be acceptable to many, while demanding people defend their faith will be offensive to most.
- It's ok to make mistakes. Let others know that they can tell you, if something you say might be incorrect or offensive.
- Use inclusive language for those who do not identify with a particular faith tradition or identify as atheist or agnostic.
- Whenever possible, make events accessible and inclusive for all potential participants. Some things to consider:
 - Religious Holidays (interfaith-calendar.org)
 - Prayer times (e.g. Friday prayers for Muslims, Friday Sabbath/sundown for Jews)
 - Physical contact between genders
 - Dietary needs such as Kosher, Halal, vegetarian, vegan etc.
- What will you do this week to further your knowledge? Take the time to learn something about a tradition different from your own.
- You don't need to be an expert- ask an expert! Seek help or advice from the staff or multi-faith network at MFSC mfsc@concordia.ca