

Learning more about organizations in Montreal

with Mrs. White, Kemba Mitchell, and Rashawn Greenidge

Keywords: Generational Knowledge, Institutional Change, Activism, Anti-Black Racism, Oral history, Complexifying Anglocentrism, Intersectionality, Community organizing

Related Course Subjects: Diversity and the Contemporary World, History, Education, Immigration Studies, Community, Sociology & Anthropology, Cultural Studies, Language Studies, Arts & Media, Sustainability Studies, Women’s Studies, Communications, Journalism, Media studies, Social Work

Founded in 1982, The West Island Black Community Association has been a gathering and community space for the Black Anglophone community in Montreal. Mrs. White, Kemba Mitchell, and Rashawn Greenidge talk about the founding of WIBCA, its history and the impact of activism and community organizing in Montreal.

Video URL

<https://youtu.be/Qs08cD35PpQ>

Goals/Objectives

After watching the video, students will be able to:

- Recognize the importance and impacts of community organizing for the resistance and thriving Black, Indigenous and People of Colour communities. Identify how overlapping intersections affect communities of colour in Quebec (race, language, immigration status, age)
- Identify and understand systemic discrimination and Anti-Black racism in Montreal.
- Understand the significance of creating Black, Indigenous, and Communities of Colour-centered spaces.



About The Decolonial Perspectives & Practices Hub

The Decolonial Perspectives & Practices Hub is a student-led initiative to provide a platform for the community to collaborate and develop meaningful solutions to the systemic issues faced by underserved groups in academia. Our mission is to advance knowledge and understanding of these issues and provide a space to engage in research and learning that is open to all experiences each individual brings.

About the Anti-Racist Pedagogy Project

The Anti-Racist Pedagogy Project is a video library that showcases pre-recorded talks by local community activists, students and educators in Montreal and Canada and transforms them into anti-racist educational resources for the classroom. Undergraduate and graduate students from Concordia and McGill University created the content for these course packages. These resources exemplify the power of student leadership and their contribution to advancing antiracist education.

Learn More
thedpphub.com

Contact
info@thedpphub.com

Pre-Class Self-Reflection Exercise (Educators)

Fully engaging with antiracist pedagogy starts with self-reflection and accountability. **If you are familiar with antiracist education, you know that the best way to teach antiracist pedagogy is to model antiracist praxis and thought.** As such, we have developed a series of self-reflection questions for you to consider before integrating anti-racist educational materials into your classroom. The night before class or at least a few hours before class, give yourself time, without distractions, to reflect on the questions below - you can write them down or reflect on them with yourself paper free!

Be reflexive

- What does antiracist pedagogy or education mean to you?
- What is the relationship between your identity and antiracist work? How would you describe your role in antiracist work?
- How do you view the mutualistic exchange between yourself and your students? Do you adjust your teaching style accordingly?
- What is the difference between engaging with our repository as a knowledge exchange versus a knowledge extraction?

Be accountable

- To what extent have you engaged with antiracist or anti-oppressive education or philosophies within your life/work? Why or why not?
 - What has the silencing or exclusion of another person or group looked like in the environments that you frequent? What have you done, or what could you have done to remedy it?
 - Reflect on how you have engaged with literature, presentations and other forms of knowledge led by Queer, Trans, Indigenous, Black, Asian, and other POC in your academic, personal, or professional lives.
 - What has been your role in disrupting and mobilizing against racism and oppression interpersonally or in the environments you frequent?
-



Guiding Questions

Before watching the video

Pre-Video Questions -Students

- What are some benefits of actively listening to our elders and passing down their knowledge?
- Why is community organizing important? What are the possible outcomes and impact it can have?
- Are you involved in community initiatives? Do you believe being involved in community initiatives is essential? Why or why not?
- Is Montreal/ Quebec an inclusive society? Why or Why not?

While watching the video

As you watch the video, take note of the following:

- WIBCA highlights the importance of accessibility within the organization and the community. What does accessibility mean? What does it look like to you?
- Why is it essential to break the generational divide within communities? What could be some of the benefits of collaboration?

After watching the video

Post-video Questions

- Intergenerational knowledge is passed down through oral history and engagement with elders. How can we preserve this crucial knowledge to benefit the advancement and growth of communities?
 - How do organizations like WIBCA tackle structural issues and successfully sustain progress within communities of colour?
 - How can these changes be replicated institutionally?
 - In what ways do organizations like WIBCA transform the landscape and resistance of anglophone communities in Quebec?
-



Assignments / Writing topics

Mapping Montreal Grassroots – Non-for-Profit Organizations

Do you know more organizations in Montreal? Grassroots movements? Research a not-for-profit organization or a grassroots collaboration in Montreal. Create a presentation or slide post about your chosen organization on a social media platform. Learn about their history. Include the following information:

- When was it founded?
- Why was it founded? What is the vision and mission of the organization?
- Who are the founders?
- Which groups or people does it serve? What is their Mandate?

Impacts of Community Organizing

Write a three-page essay about the social impacts and contributions of a community or grassroots organization in your city. This can be an organization you know that serves your community or tackles an issue you care about.

Taking Action

- Reach out to community organizers, Elders in the community, and people working at the forefront of organizing to be guest lecturers in your class. Make sure to introduce their work to your students and discuss the importance of letting BIPOC voices tell BIPOC stories.
- Connect with community organizations in Montreal that serve your community or you resonate with their mission. Start a collaboration with them through a volunteer program, organize a fundraiser or collect items the organization needs.

Student Group Reflection

1. What is something new that your group learned or began to consider from watching the video?
2. What type of educational videos on systemic racism would you like to see more of?
3. How can you combat systems of oppression and exclusion in your individual lives?
4. Why is having an anti-racist approach to your work/studies important?
5. After today's exercise, write down two suggestions for your professor on making your class more inclusive.

Thank you for implementing our resources and supporting anti-racism efforts in education. If you have any questions or feedback, please email us!



thedpphub.com
info@thedpphub.com