

Here's a structured training program to prepare the cohort for their presentation to the Community of Practice (COP) on Cultural Sensitivity and Respect in educational settings:

Training Program: Cultural Sensitivity and Respect in Educational Settings

1. Digital Learning Coursework (2 hours)

Objective: Build foundational knowledge of cultural sensitivity and respect in educational settings.

A. Learning Modules:

1. **Introduction to Cultural Sensitivity in Education (30 mins)**
 - Definition and importance of cultural sensitivity and respect in teaching.
 - Impact of cultural biases on learning outcomes.
2. **Understanding Caribbean Culture (45 mins)**
 - Overview of Caribbean history, values, and diversity.
 - Common cultural norms, traditions, and taboos in the Caribbean.
 - Role of colonial history and its influence on education systems.
3. **Cross-Cultural Communication Strategies (45 mins)**
 - Identifying cultural differences and bridging communication gaps.
 - Handling culturally sensitive topics and avoiding stereotypes.
 - Building rapport with students and parents from diverse backgrounds.

B. Activities:

- Interactive quizzes after each module.
 - Reflection prompts: "What challenges might you face as an educator in a culturally diverse classroom, and how would you address them?"
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2. In-Person Participants Meeting (3 hours)

Objective: Foster discussion, deepen understanding, and encourage collaboration among participants.

A. Icebreaker Activity (30 mins)

- **"Cultural Snapshot"**: Participants share one cultural practice or experience they feel comfortable with from their background.

B. Workshop (2 hours)

- 1. Exploring Cultural Dynamics in the Caribbean Classroom (1 hour)**
 - Case studies on real-life scenarios in Caribbean educational settings.
 - Group discussion on challenges faced by educators and students.
 - Role-playing exercises to practice culturally sensitive responses.
- 2. Incorporating Cultural Respect into Teaching Strategies (1 hour)**
 - Adapting teaching styles to suit diverse learning needs.
 - Strategies to create inclusive lesson plans.
 - Encouraging student participation while respecting cultural norms.

C. Feedback and Sharing (30 mins)

- Participants share key takeaways and discuss how they plan to apply their learnings.
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3. Hands-On Practical Application (3 hours)

Objective: Apply knowledge of cultural sensitivity and respect to design and deliver an effective presentation for the COP.

A. Small Group Task: Presentation Development (1.5 hours)

- Each group develops a segment of the COP presentation. Topics could include:
 1. Defining cultural sensitivity and respect in classrooms.
 2. Strategies for overcoming cultural barriers in education.
 3. Success stories and lessons learned from cross-cultural teaching.

B. Practice Session: Presentation Rehearsal (1 hour)

- Groups present their segments to peers and receive constructive feedback.
- Facilitators highlight areas for improvement and emphasize key cultural nuances.

C. Reflection and Fine-Tuning (30 mins)

- Participants refine their presentation based on feedback.
 - Final group discussion on how their understanding has evolved through the training program.
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Program Completion

Evaluation:

- Online survey for participants to evaluate the program's effectiveness.
- Checklist to ensure the COP presentation incorporates the knowledge and strategies from the training.

Outcome:

Participants will gain a deep understanding of cultural sensitivity and respect, feel confident in their ability to navigate diverse classrooms, and deliver an impactful presentation to the COP.