



The University of Akron **Rethinking Race**

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Face-2-Face Conversations

Face-2-Face (F2F) conversations are discussions dealing with race and racial conflict. Because race is a sensitive and controversial topic, F2F conversations provide a forum for interesting, **illuminating** and **real conversation**—student to student—without reinforcing **tired stereotypes**, amplifying hostility, or spreading more misinformation about the very real and complex racial conflicts playing out in America today.



The hope is that participants are ready to **move outside their comfort zones**, ready to examine implicit assumptions and thoughtfully challenge those of others. Even more basic, participants should be willing to listen without interruption, to someone expressing a view that you may not initially agree with, or may not fully understand; to let others tell their story and be heard with the same patience and attentiveness and respect others will demonstrate when you share your thoughts or concerns.

Everyone should **be prepared to speak honestly, openly, and with decency and respect**; to think critically about what is being said and heard; to try to place yourself in the position of those speaking, to feel what it might be like to walk a mile in their shoes so that you might better understand how the speaker came to hold the views that they are sharing. And for those who really want to learn something, there must be a willingness to **expand consciousness** about an uncomfortable and divisive subject, a topic that cannot be discussed without facing the very real pain and hurt and harm central to racial conflict, and to share an aspiration as old as America itself, that we

might find ways to work together with everyone in the group toward **justice, reconciliation,** and **redemption.**

The conversations are held in a casual setting that encourages open conversation. There are no formal rules or format to a F2F conversation; it simply begins with a facilitator or moderator making a few opening statements, reading a selected passage, or posing a question, and then encouraging participants to **join the conversation.**

DATE	TOPIC	TIME	LOCATION	SPONSOR
Monday, Feb. 3	The Struggle for Survival: Afro-Descendant and Indigenous Culture in Latin America	1:30-3:30 p.m.	Student Union 335	IRTF
	Ask a Black Person	5-6:30 p.m.	Student Union 335	Pan-African Student Organization
Tuesday, Feb. 4	Understanding the Truths Regarding Organ, Eye and Tissue Donation	noon-1 p.m.	Student Union 335	Lifebanc
Wednesday, Feb. 5	The Latino Experience in Ohio: Immigration Law and the Effects on Families and Deportation	1-2:30 p.m.	Student Union 335	HOLA
	#hatespeech	3:15 p.m.	Polsky 313	
	Ebonics: Dis a Language?	5-6:30 p.m.	Student Union 335	

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Thursday, Feb. 6	Cracking the Codes - The System of Racial Inequity	noon-1 p.m.	Student Union 310	Ohio Organizing Collaborative/ Stand Up For Ohio
Monday, Feb. 10	50 Years Later: The Civil Rights Act of 1964	2-3 p.m.	McClain Gallery, <u>Buckingham Building (https:// maps.uakron.edu/ map?id=56)</u>	
Tuesday, Feb. 11	Cultural Intolerance presented by Dr. Rob Schwartz	2-3 p.m.	Polsky 313	
Wednesday, Feb. 12	Is it okay to use the N-word?	5-6:30 p.m.	Student Union 335	
Thursday, Feb. 13	Do Black Lives Matter?	noon-1 p.m.	Student Union 310	Ohio Organizing Collaborative/ Stand Up For Ohio/Stop the Violence Akron Movement
Friday, Feb. 14	Racial Stereotypes in the Media	10-11:30 a.m.	Bierce Library 154	University Libraries
Friday, Feb. 14	"Racism in Politics" presented by Dr. James Holland, Dr. Stephen Brooks and Michael Shepherd	1-2:30 p.m.	Student Union 335	Political Science

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Friday, Feb. 14	"Mandatory Minimums" presented by CJ Dupre and Dylan Tracey	1-2:30 p.m.	Student Union 314	Political Science