



Western

Centre for Research on
Migration and Ethnic Relations

**Fall Colloquium
Series 2018**

Dr. Michele Manocchi



Michele Manocchi works at the Cross Cultural Learner Centre, London ON, as an Intercultural Education Specialist, where he coordinates, develops, and delivers the Intercultural Competency Advantage Program. Michele holds a PhD in Comparative Social Research earned in Italy – his country of origin. He is also an Adjunct Research Professor at the Department of Psychology, Western University, and member of the Western Centre for Research on Migration and Ethnic Relations, and collaborates with Ryerson University. His main research interests are on evaluation research; intercultural education; non-status migrants and Sanctuary City policies; refugee reception systems; settlement services and social policies for refugees and migrants; labelling processes and practices of resistance. Last publication: Manocchi M., 2018, *Funding precarity: NGO and refugee negotiation of Italian and European inadequate asylum policies*, chapter in Gerard A. & Vecchio F. (Eds.), *Entrapping Asylum Seekers: Social, Legal and Economic Precariousness*, Palgrave Macmillan, London UK.

How does it look like to be interculturally competent? Discussion around discrimination, privileges, and implications for research.

The increased globalization of investment, production and distribution is transforming societies and economies - resulting in an increase in the geographic mobility of workers. Along with mobility, there is an increase in cultural diversity and, consequently, in the potential issues related to the encounter among different culturally embedded values, interpretations, and communication styles. When we talk about "workers", we need also to consider other elements on the move, such as families, expectations, and values. Those elements, if properly supported and managed, can constitute an advantage for both migrants and hosting societies not only in economic terms but also for a full and harmonic integration. Therefore, supporting individuals, organizations, and communities in developing an adequate set of intercultural competencies is not only desirable but becomes strategically crucial to assure the advantages of cultural diversity. But how can this be done? What does it mean to be interculturally competent? Is our intercultural competency level measurable? And how we can improve it? How to conciliate the need of intercultural competency with the current lack of awareness on systemic discrimination based on diversity? Is it even possible talking properly about privileges and white fragility?

Thursday, October 4, 2018

4:00 pm, SSC 6210

Refreshments at 3:30pm in SSC 6256

All Welcome!

For More Information email: mer@uwo.ca