

## What is Pluralism?

**First**, pluralism is not diversity alone, but *the energetic engagement with diversity*.

Today, religious diversity is a given, but pluralism is not a given; it is an achievement.

**Second**, pluralism is not just tolerance, but *the active seeking of understanding across lines of difference*.

Tolerance is a necessary public virtue, but it does not require [groups] to know anything about one another.

**Third**, pluralism is not relativism, but *the encounter of commitments*.

The new paradigm of pluralism does not require us to leave our identities and our commitments behind, for pluralism is the encounter of commitments. It means holding our deepest differences, even our religious differences, not in isolation, but in relationship to one another.

**Fourth**, pluralism is *based on dialogue*.

The language of pluralism is that of dialogue and encounter, give and take, criticism and self-criticism. Dialogue means both speaking and listening, and that process reveals both common understandings and real differences. Dialogue does not mean everyone at the "table" will agree with one another. Pluralism involves the commitment to being at the table -- with one's commitments.

—Diana L. Eck

Source: The Pluralism Project at Harvard University  
[http://pluralism.org/pages/pluralism/what\\_is\\_pluralism](http://pluralism.org/pages/pluralism/what_is_pluralism)

## Location & Access Information

- The Multi-Faith Space is located in the lower level of the CAW Student Centre, Room B-08. It is accessible 7 days a week, 24 hours a day, as the CAW Student Centre is open.
- During the day and evening, the door can be opened with the use of a student, staff, or faculty UwinCARD and overnight with a key card from the Information Desk (specific times are posted).

## Booking Procedures

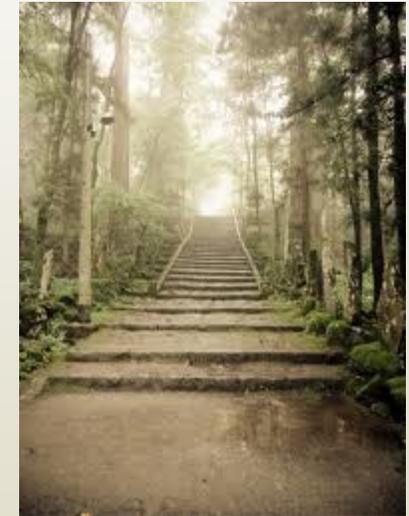
- The Bookable Area on the other side of the main room divider may be used by individuals or booked for groups. This space may be sub-divided using the 3<sup>rd</sup> room divider as needed.
- Individuals and/or groups are required to reserve the Bookable Area of the Space through the Information Desk. If the space is required at a specific time each day/week, a request to book for the semester should be submitted to the Oversight Committee.
- Reservations should not exceed one (1) hour in length, including setup/cleanup time.
- Room/cabinet booking requests are accepted after September 15th each year.



## Contact Information

Oversight Committee  
Email: [mfs@uwindsor.ca](mailto:mfs@uwindsor.ca)

## Multi-Faith Space for Students, Staff & Faculty



**CAW Student Centre  
Lower Level  
Room B-08**

## Rules & Guidelines

It is required that you respect these rules, guidelines and the rights of all persons (including all faiths, gender and cultures) while using the space.

### *About the Multi-Faith Space...*



The University of Windsor Multi-Faith Space is intended to serve all students, staff and faculty. The space is provided to support the diversity of the University community, within a context of pluralism.

The purposeful absence of any particular religious iconography or symbols is intended to create a more neutral tone.

- The Multi-Faith Space is intended for students, staff and faculty only.
- This space is to be used for prayer/meditation and religious observances and not as a lounge, study room, meeting room or for other purposes not involved with prayer/meditation. Please respect the requirement for a peaceful, quiet atmosphere.
- The front Common Area is open to everyone at all times, regardless of booking of the Multi-Faith Space, faith/religion, gender, etc.
- The maximum capacity is 80 people. At no time is the combined occupancy of the Common Area and the Bookable Area to exceed the limit. Overflow of people into the hallway is not permitted.
- Footwear/backpacks must remain inside the facility; racks are provided for this purpose.
- The use of fire, including lit candles or incense, is not permitted in the Multi-Faith Space.
- No food/beverages are allowed in the Multi-Faith Space. Exceptions due to religious ceremony may be permitted, as approved by the Oversight Committee.
- Please keep this Space clean. All personal and group materials are to be removed from the space after use. Mats/carpets need be returned to the allotted location. Furniture/dividers must remain in the facility, and restored to the original position.
- A limited number of cabinets are available to recognized faith-based University clubs on a first come basis. These are provided for the purpose of storing items such as spiritual books, literature, religious artefacts, etc. Users are responsible for returning items to the cabinet after each use. The University is not responsible for any items/materials left in the Multi-Faith Space which are lost, stolen or damaged.

\*The University reserves the right to amend, modify or change these rules/guidelines without notice.