



# Project RISE

Refugee & Immigrant Student Engagement



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“Educators who teach refugee students teach in some of the most challenging classrooms in the world.”

-unknown

”

# Where it all started...



Project RISE

# A Need for Student Engagement & Teacher Training

- The unique challenges faced by newcomer students presents a need for intervention from educators.
- Research also shows teachers often feel unprepared to work with students from newcomer backgrounds.
- Project RISE aims to address both issues.

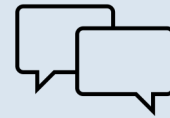
# Project RISE hopes to...



**Identify student challenges and needs**



**Challenge existing stereotypes**



**Challenge deficit-language/discourse**



**Empower students**



**Develop culturally-competent teachers**



**Challenge biases & understand privileges**



**Encourage achievement of excellence**



**Build communities of understanding**

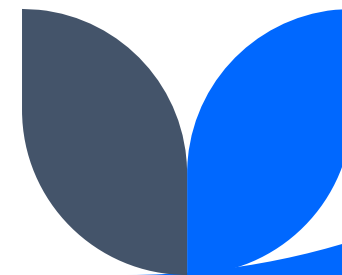
# Project RISE Course Content

## In-Class Component

- Research surrounding newcomer education
- Developing Programs and Engagements
- Creating Educational Resources
- Community Members Visits
- Hands-on activities and projects
- Collaborative research projects
- Guided and Personal Reflection

## School/Community Engagement

- Weekly In-School Service
- Facilitating Programs and Engagements alongside students
  - teacher-student mentorship
  - peer-peer mentorship
  - student led workshops
  - university campus visits
- Fundraising (i.e. Family Sponsorship)



# Outcomes & Benefits

## Outcomes for Teacher-Candidates

- Increased Intercultural competence
- Increased appreciation and understanding of newcomer students' experiences
- Increased understanding & appreciation of service-learning as pedagogical approach
- Explore your positionality, biases, privileges

## Outcomes for Students Involved

- Increased sense of agency in learning and personal development
- Peer—peer networking opportunities
- Challenging and dispelling stereotypes & deficit-model thinking/discourse about refugee/immigrant youth



# Assignments Overview

## A Focus on Critical Ongoing Reflection

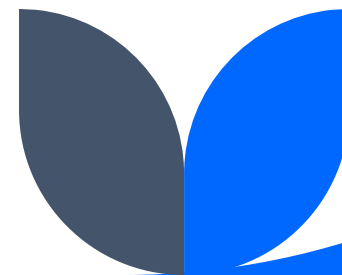
A great focus of any service learning course is reflection – this is where the learning happens.

Throughout the course, you will be guided through reflections about all activities, experiences and engagements.

Weekly “case study” reflections about your community engagement are key.

## Educational Resources

To support your colleagues in the field of education, you will create engaging and interactive educational resources that focus on some aspect of the general theme “RISE From Vulnerability to Excellence”





# Assignments Overview

## Migration Simulations

You will engage in various interactive virtual simulations that will give you an idea of what the migration process may look like for some individuals.

## Community Engagement

The main component of this course is community engagement. You will be involved in creating and facilitating programs and engagements alongside students from newcomer backgrounds at one or more of our partner schools. A comprehensive report (traditional or video format) will be created to document the projects you develop.











# Thank you

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