

SPI PAX 522 CLASS SCHEDULE 2022

**All Classes will be from 11:00 am – 1:00 Pm EASTERN TIME ZONE.
Please check your time zone.**

WELCOME TO SPI PAX 522 CIRCLE PROCESSES FEB 14 -MARCH 18, 2022

Please read this information so you are familiar with how the course will roll out, what you'll need to do to prepare for class and how to complete your Capstone Assignment.

COMMUNICATION

Email will be our primary method of communication when we are not in class together. I will send reading materials and links to videos in emails. You'll send me your Circle plans and I'll return them with comments and suggestions. You can email me any time and I'll respond quickly. If you feel you need a meeting or phone call, we'll set up a time for a conversation.

FINDING COURSE MATERIALS (READINGS, VIDEOS, CIRCLE SIGN-UP)

Through EMU, you have access to a [Class Folder in Google Drive](#) which holds what you need for the course. **You will need to sign into Google using your EMU address.** You will not be able to access the drive and materials if you sign in using your personal Gmail address.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is an introductory-level course designed to introduce beginners to basic Circle-keeping skills. No past experience is required or necessary. During these five weeks, we will explore the values and philosophy that provide the foundation of the peacemaking circle process, acknowledging its indigenous origins. We will also analyze the structure of the peacemaking circle process and participate in a variety of types of instructor and student-led Circles. Participants will learn to design and conduct peacemaking circles for community building and conflict resolution. Both philosophy and practice will be addressed.

The entire course will be conducted in virtual Circle using Zoom, relying upon the life experiences of participants as a major source of knowledge. The course will also engage learners in readings, videos, group discussion, and limited lecture. Special attention will be given to the roles of the co-facilitator and the key skills of Circle facilitation.

Participants will be required to spend up to 2 hours a week outside of class reading required texts and other materials provided by the instructor as well as preparing for your CAPSTONE ASSIGNMENT. Participants will be encouraged to

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co-keep Circles with other students based on themes in the assigned materials in order to practice Circle-keeping skills and obtain coaching and feedback in real time.

Some technological efficacy is needed, although Zoom support will be provided. Assignments will be delivered via email and may include documents to be downloaded.

CAPSTONE ASSIGNMENT: You are strongly encouraged to keep or co-keep an actual Circle *either* during regular scheduled classes OR outside of class with an outside group of your choosing. Given limited class time, not everyone will likely be able to keep/co-keep during class. PLEASE PLAN AHEAD starting in Week 1 if you would like to keep your Circle outside of class. You will receive individual guidance and both blank and sample Circle plans to help you design your Circle. The instructor and/or your classmates will offer constructive feedback on your Circle either in writing or in class. Your final step will be to submit a 1–2-page reflection paper about your experience, including what you learned about Circle-keeping and what you might improve upon. **Given this is a professional development class, I cannot require you to do this assignment. However, you will get the most practical experience and feedback if you choose to do it. I consider it invaluable and vital part of your learning.**

Prior to Keeping Your Circle:

Email your circle plan to martha.brown@emu.edu no later than 2 days prior to your scheduled Circle so there is time for Martha to give you feedback and for you to make any revisions.

In-Class Circles can be co-kept with another student. They should not exceed 45-50 minutes.

Out-of-Class Circles should be no more than 90-minutes long. Please consult with Martha if you want to keep your Circle outside of class. Plan to hold your Circle during the 4th week of class if possible.

Post Circle-Keeping Assignment:

Please submit a 1–2-page reflection paper within 5 days of keeping your Circle. Reflect on the following – and anything else you want to include:

- 1) How were you feeling going into the Circle?
- 2) What informed your decisions on topic, centerpiece, Talking Piece, etc?
- 3) What challenges did you encounter?
- 4) What went well? What surprised you?

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5) What would you do differently next time?

REQUIRED AND RECOMMENDED READINGS

Students are required to purchase and read 1 text for this course. Please get this book BEFORE class starts. Additional readings (i.e. PDFs, links, etc.) will be provided by your instructor. You may wish to purchase books from the recommended reading list to deepen your understanding.

Please understand – it's not enough to just show up and be in Circle. It's important to understand the research, practical, and theoretical aspects and the wisdom from those who came before us and who teach us. This is so that you are supported and less likely to do harm when keeping Circle. Please set aside time to read the materials provided to you.

Required Texts:

1. Kay Pranis, **The Little Book of Circle Processes: A New/Old Approach to Peacemaking** (2003 Good Books) (75 pp) ISBN 9781561484614 \$5.99

Additional Recommended Reading Resources:

1. Carolyn Boyes-Watson and Kay Pranis, **Heart of Hope: A Guide for using Peacemaking Circles to Develop Emotional Literacy, Promote Healing, and Build Healthy Relationships.** (2010 Living Justice Press) (349 pp) ISBN: 978-0-615-37988-3 \$40
2. Rupert Ross, **Returning to the Teachings: Exploring Aboriginal Justice** (1996 Penguin Canada) (270 pp) ISBN 0-14-305559-3 \$20
3. Robin Wall Kimmerer, **Braiding Sweetgrass** (2013 Milkweed Editions) (390 pp) ISBN 9781571313560 \$18
4. Kay Pranis, Barry Stuart and Mark Wedge, **Peacemaking Circles: From Conflict to Community** (2003 Living Justice Press) (250 pp) ISBN 9780972188606 \$25
5. Jennifer Ball, Wayne Caldwell and Kay Pranis, **Doing Democracy with Circles – Engaging Communities in Public Planning** (Living Justice Press) ISBN 9780972188661 \$20
6. Carolyn Boyes-Watson and Kay Pranis, **Circle Forward: Building a Restorative School Community** (2014 Living Justice Press) (456 pp) ISBN 13; 9781937141196 \$70
7. Martha Brown, **Creating Restorative Schools** (2018 Living Justice Press) (350 pp) ISBN 9781937141219 \$35

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8. Katherine Evans and Dorothy Vaandering, **The Little Book of Restorative Justice in Education** (2016 Good Books) ISBN 9781680991727 \$5.99
9. Carolyn Boyes-Watson, **Peacemaking Circles and Urban Youth**, (2008 Living Justice Press) (280 pp) ISBN 9780972188647 \$20
10. Nancy Riestenberg, **Circle in the Square – Building Community and Repairing Harm in School** (2012 Living Justice Press) (220 pp) ISBN10: 9780972188673 \$20
11. Carolyn Yoder, **The Little Book of Trauma Healing** (2005 Good Books) (80 pp) ISBN 9781561485079 \$5.99
12. Valandra, Edward. (2019 Living Justice Press). **Colorizing Restorative Justice: Voicing Our Realities**. ISBN 978-1-937141-23-3 \$35.00

YOUR CLASS SCHEDULE FOLLOWS: USE THE LINKS AND PLAN TIME FOR READINGS AND VIDEOS PRIOR TO CLASS

DAY	DATE	TOPIC	ACTIVITY/ LOGISTICS	HOMEWORK BEFORE CLASS
Monday	Feb 14	Circle: Getting to know each other Lecture: Introduction to the Circle Process Course Orientation & Capstone Assignment	Circles Slides	Read: Pranis (Text): Circle Process, Chapters 1-5

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Thursday	Feb 17	Circle: Establishing Group Values & Guidelines Lecture: Circle Plan	Circles Slides Circle Plan – Blank & Examples Action: Set Student Circle Schedule (9 in-class opportunities – maximum 18 students)	Read: Pranis (Text) Circle Process, Chapters 6-12
Monday	Feb 21	Circle 1: 7 Core Assumptions Lecture & Discussion: The difference between honoring and appropriating	Slides	Read: Heart of Hope pp16-49 (PDF) Heart of Hope Theoretical foundations (PDF) IN FOLDER
Thursday	Feb 24	Student-led Circle 1: On Listening Student-led Circle 2: Restorative Values	Student Actions: Submit Plan for 45-minute Circle by Tuesday Feb 22	Read: Ueland (PDF) – On Listening Pranis (PDF) – Restorative Values IN FOLDER
Monday	Feb 28	Student-led Circle 1: Vulnerability & Whiteness in Circles Lecture & Discussion: Mindfulness & Trauma-informed practices in Circle	Student Actions: Submit Plan for 45-minute Circle by Friday Feb 25 Slides: Trauma, Principles of TI Care	Read: Salazar – Vulnerability (PDF) Parker (PDF) Who's IN Shaughnessy Mindfulness (PDF) Riestenberg Trauma (PDF) IN FOLDER

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				Video: Step Inside the Circle
Thursday	Mar 3	Student-led Circle 1: Circles in Schools Lecture & Discussion: Circles at Work	Student Actions: Submit Plan for 45-minute Circle by Tuesday March 1 Slides: Examples, Prompts	Read: Riestenberg Ch 9 (PDF) IN FOLDER 3 videos: RJ in Oakland Reentry Oakland Teacher Circle
Monday	Mar 7	Student-led Circle 1: Student's choice Student-led Circle 2: : Student's choice	Student Actions: Submit Plan for 45-minute Circle by Friday March 5	
Thursday	Mar 10	Student-led Circle 1: Student's choice Student-led Circle 2: Student's choice	Student Actions: Submit Plan for 45-minute Circle by Tuesday March 8	Get a jump on next week's readings
Monday	Mar 14	Student-led Circle 1: Student's choice Lecture & Discussion Circles for Repairing Harm	Student Actions: Submit Plan for 45-minute Circle by Friday March 11 Slides	Read: 10 Different Ways to Approach a Restorative Encounter (PDF) - Hopkins The Circle as a Space for Healing (PDF) – Boyes-Watson IN FOLDER Video: Conflict Resolution

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Thursday	Mar 17	Lecture & Discussion Considerations for Circle Keeping Circle: What you're taking away		Read: Considerations for Circle Keeping (PDF) IN FOLDER
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MEET YOUR INSTRUCTOR: DR. MARTHA BROWN

Dr. Martha A. Brown, president of RJA Consulting, is author of *Creating Restorative Schools: Setting Schools Up to Succeed* available at Living Justice Press. This is her 4th time teaching Circle Processes for EMU's Summer Peacebuilding Institute. Martha also works for Hamai Consulting as a Restorative Justice and Trauma Specialist. Martha received her Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction from Florida Atlantic University in 2015 and has more than six years' experience designing and teaching online courses. Martha was Lead Instructor for Simon Fraser University's Continuing Studies online Restorative Justice Certificate Program, and has taught or co-taught *Circle Processes* at EMU numerous times since 2020. She has published several peer-reviewed book chapters and articles on restorative justice and has presented internationally at conferences sponsored by the National Association for Community and Restorative Justice (NACRJ), Restorative Practices International (RPI), American Evaluation Association (AEA), the Canadian Evaluation Society (CES), Visitor Studies Association (VSA), and the International Conference on Conflict Resolution in Education (CRE).

Martha's current work with restorative justice is providing schools with the R=MC2 readiness assessment to determine organizational strengths and weaknesses that help or hinder implementation of school-wide restorative justice.