



COURSE-PATH GUIDE 2022

"I have discovered in life that there are ways of getting almost anywhere you want to go if you really want to go,"

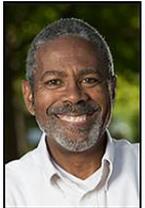
Langston Hughes





Path Facilitators 2022

Root Psychology, Spirituality and Social Worker Services Programs



Dr. Edward Bynum, Ph.D., is a psychologist practicing in Amherst, MA. Dr. Bynum specializes in the treatment of health mental problems and helps people to cope with their mental illnesses. As a psychologist, Dr. Bynum evaluates and treats patients through a variety of methods, most typically being psychotherapy or talk therapy. The Bynum Series for this Path includes his books relative to the “Family Unconscious and African Unconscious” series. **(Root Psychology)**



Linda James Myers, Ph.D., specializes in psychology and culture; moral and spiritual identity development; healing practices and psychotherapeutic processes; and intersections of race, gender, and class. She is globally known for her work in the development of a theory of Optimal Psychology which she will be teaching on this Path. Dr. Myers has conducted lectures and trainings England, South Africa, Ghana, and Jamaica. **(Root Psychology)**



T. Owens Moore, Ph.D., is trained as a Physiological Psychologist. For more than twenty years, he has served as a college professor, a biomedical researcher, and an African-centered scholar/activist. He is the Chairperson of the Department of Psychology at Clark Atlanta University. His specialty courses are both in the field of Neuroscience and African-Centered Psychology. He will be teaching “*The Melanin Series*” www.drmoore.com **(Root Psychology)**



Oloye Baba Karade is a professor of English and author of African Traditional Beliefs several books in this area. He has traveled to Nigeria, West Africa, Bahia, South America, Trinidad and throughout the country gathering insights, and collecting data on the Ifa Tradition. He continues to develop speculative fiction center on African religion, culture, ethos, and worldviews. **(Spirituality)**



Dr. Charles Finch, M.D., has conducted independent studies in African antiquities, comparative religion, and ANCIENT science since 1971. Dr. Finch will be teaching, The African Background of Medical Science and Science and Symbol in Egyptian Medicine which he discusses in his book “The Star of Deep Beginnings: Genesis of African Science & Technology” **(Spirituality)**



Ashley McGirt, L.I.C.S.W., is a psychotherapist, Tedx international speaker, author and founder of the Washington Therapy Fund Foundation. Ashley has received a Master of Social Work from the University of Washington. Her focus is primarily on *Racial Trauma*, **Social Worker Services)**



Michael Childress, B.S., is a Social Worker in southwestern Michigan working with low-income families in a pre-school setting and counselor in a substance abuse and suicide prevention program. He earned his degree from Central State University in Psychology and Special Education and Is a Certified alcohol and drug counselor (CADC) with 40 years in the field of mental health and education. **(Social Worker Services)**



PATH GUIDE 2021-22

www.lactnow0119.com • iact0119@gmail.com

“The vice of the soul is ignorance, and the virtue of a soul is knowledge,” Imhotep

The **Institute of African-Centered Thought** believes that prejudices are to be uprooted, false views are to be corrected, and truth must be unveiled and permitted to walk forth by creating specializations that enhance an academic environment in psychology based on African-Centered thought. IACT's goal is to improve cultural understanding and communication through education, conferences, seminars, summits/debates, partnerships, and collaborations of like-minded organizations to strengthen the social fabric of communities and improve relationships that will empower and motivate an optimistic human condition.

African Centered Thought is based on cosmic and natural experiences of African primordial energy, traditional and cultural beliefs that result in balanced holistic approaches within the mental, physical, and spiritual aspects of conscious awareness.

IACT recognizes that accredited general psychology programs are based on Eurocentric thought and lacks diverse and cultural resources to provide public information, education, and advocacy for targeted ethnic groups based on African-Centered Thought. As a result, IACT is committed to provide debates, open inquiries, uniqueness, and inclusiveness in the fields of psychology, social work, and community programs to bridge the gap in services and education through its platforms.

After fifteen years of evaluations in these areas, evaluations further depicted that there is a lack of cultural comprehension and lack of knowledge relative to African-Centered Thought paradigms as it relates to mental health, addiction disorders, external/social environments and psychology among trained professionals and educators that result in misdiagnoses. On the other hand, client and student outcomes, retention and registration rates improved dramatically, when an African-Centered approach are utilized with the Black population.

After some examination and investigation, results depicted that the national academic system psychology curriculums, including HBCUs, accreditation and credentialing institutions including Licensing, approvals are based upon the Eurocentric academic value system that lacks cultural sensitivities and neglects cultural learning models based on values, hypotheses, and theories. IACT has considered and reviewed most of these psychology systems that were primarily proposed by a white male dominated field



and therefore, aims to improve curriculums and enhance the field through its African-Centered Thought based specialization certificate programs.

IACT Registration Policy

IACT does not discriminate based on age, gender, race, creed, sexual orientation, disability, national or ethnic origin of its admission or educational policies.

APPLICATION

Early application is encouraged, admissions will be considered on a space-available basis since there is a **10 Slot** maximum.

VIRTUAL EARLY REGISTRATION

December 11, 2021

- 12 to 3 PM
- 6 to 8 PM

IN-PERSON REGISTRATION at Black Dot, 1437 S. Jackson Street, Seattle, WA

December 18, 2021

- 2 to 4 pm

VIRTUAL REGULAR REGISTRATION

January 3, 2022

- Noon to 3 PM

One Scholarship Opening for 2022

1. Root Psychology One (1) Undergraduate degree required

All award decisions will be made by **December 30, 2021**, and are based on financial need, essay and a 15-minute video interview and presentation.

Contact IACT via website email at www.iactnow0119.com by **December 20, 2021**, to apply by submitting the following:

- **Financial Need**
 1. A one-page, two paragraph financial statement that reflects a reason(s) for scholarship
- **Applicant Criteria – Two (2) page Essay**
 1. Current or previous field of study in Social Sciences
 2. Bachelor's Degree in fields of Education, Psychology, Social Work
 3. Essay on African Centered Thought/Black Community needs



4. Aspirant Goals
 5. How will any of IACT's programs support your endeavors?
- **Zoom Video Presentation**
 1. Selected candidates will be contacted with Zoom link for interview and presentation by **December 20, 2021**.
 2. Presentation question is "What Motivates you?" and in your words, "Define how African Centered Thought Models will best serve and build Mental Wellness Approaches" in the Black community.

PATH REGISTRATION

- A Registration form and **20% deposit is due at Registration. Balance due beginning of each Cycle.**
- Registration on a first come first serve basis, **maximum is ten (10) Learners**
- Partial Investment commitments are due at Registration, balance due before starting your PATH program. Payment arrangements available upon discretion during Registration **ONLY**
- In-Person Registration is **December 18** at Black Dot in Seattle, Washington from 2 to 4 pm
- Virtual Early Registration is on **December 11, 2021**, from **Noon to 3 pm** and **6 to 8 pm**
- Regular Registration is **January 3, 2022, Noon to 3 pm**
- Investment payments are processed through Cash-AP and Zelle. No checks.

ATTENDANCE

All **PATHS** are ten-weeks except where stipulated. Learner Participants are expected to arrive on time for and to attend all online-computer sessions. If a Learner is unable to attend a session, faculty must be contacted in advance except in emergency cases. Specialization programs are offered on an annual basis, unlike traditional institutions, one course continues Cycle to Cycle until its full term is completed. Therefore, if a Learner Participant begins a Cycle and misses the consecutive quarter, the Learner will not move on until the previous Cycle is complete.

EVALUATIONS

Learner Participants are interviewed upon Cycle Completion and required to submit an online assessment of their experience to complete the program. Once the assessment is completed, a Certificate is granted at an in-person Certificate Presentation program where professional goals are recognized. **PATH** requirements include, but are not limited to, demonstrated understanding of reading assignments and theory, demonstrated competence in the performance of healing work, satisfactory completion



of written work, satisfactory attendance and participation in course and other field experiences.

GRIEVANCES

Learners who wish to file a grievance regarding an academic or administrative decision may do so in writing to the president within ten days of the event or decision and can expect a meeting or response from the president within two weeks.

PATH Courses are certified as an **INDEPENDENT STUDY, LIFE EXPERIENCE CREDIT** and/or **CONTINUING EDUCATION** depending on your institution criteria and policies. IACT is an independent non-degree granting institution in the State of Washington. The Institute offers a Certificate of Completion.

TRANSCRIPTS

Transcripts are required during the first semester for the Root Psychology Program. An undergraduate or graduate degree in social work, psychology or education is required for this program.

FACILITIES

All **PATH Course** are Virtual Learning.

LIBRARY

IACT's **Sojourner Truth Black Online Library** will be available in January 2022.

AH CONFERENCE 2022

All actively enrolled **PATH Learners** pay a flat nominal fee of \$100 for basic conference.



P-Positive A-Action will T-Transform H-Humanity

PATH Certificate Programs 2022

Winter Cycle January 11 to February 19
Spring Cycle March 21 to May 14
Fall Cycle September 12 to November 11

Root Psychology (1)

This **PATH** contrasts foundational and general psychological theories with Black psychology theories and healing modalities based on African-Centered thought and the Ancestral Healing Identity Theory. It provides a basis of cultural understanding to help strengthen opportunities and alliances for Black Psychologists, Ancestral Healing Practitioners and Mental Health clinicians who work with Black populations.

Curriculum Six-Month Root Psychology Certificate

Course	Weeks
Black Psychology Theories	2
African Traditions	2
The Seasoning	5
Optimal Psychology	5
Pigment Power	5
Root Transcendence	5

Root Psychology (2)

Root Psychology 1 is a prerequisite for this **PATH** and is a continuum of studies that examine the rudimentary cultural belief systems, patterns and traditions influences that have impacted the beliefs and human behavior. It provides opportunities to examine the self and discuss emergent factors of discipline and understanding and considering how dormant behavior between automation and human interaction contribute to acculturation and assimilation.



Curriculum Twelve Month Certificate includes Root Psychology 1 and 2

Course	Weeks
Root Psychology	4
Optimal Psychology	5
Melanin Series	5
The Family Unconscious	5
African Centered Healing Models	5

Ancestral Healing

Family history helps current generations discover information about their biological lineages. More than genealogy, yet inclusive of genealogy, this **PATH** is the study of family history and recognition of patterns of negative and positive behavior that have influenced and motivated healthy and unhealthy family lifestyles.

Course	Weeks
The Seasoning	4
Genealogy	5
Generational Trauma	5
Ancestral Healing	5
Genetics	5

African Spirituality (1, 2, and 3)

This **PATH** is created to dispel a myriad of myths that were derived about African spiritual beliefs, rituals, mystery systems and its influence as an intrinsic motivational source that strengthens life processes. The **PATH** continues to examine African traditions, religion (the Black Church) and science.

Course	Weeks
The Black Church	4
African Traditions	5
African Spiritual Beliefs	5
Religion	5
Myths	5



Social Work Program

This program addresses addiction and mood disorders in general as a challenge to a healthy lifestyle. It helps to provide social workers, chemical dependency counselors and mental health counselors who work with this population how to identify the needs of their clients and refer them appropriately. This program is accompanied with the first all-**BLACK Crises Hotline** Training which is an asset to all social services providers and practitioners. *Completion Certificate granted.*

Healing Circle Facilitator

The **AH Healing Circle Facilitator** training is based on African-Centered Thought. IACT believes that Healing Circles are key in helping families and individuals cope and meet a variety of the mental and emotional challenges that impact mental wellness, especially as a key to a balanced lifestyle among Black families post-Covid-19. The purpose of the AH Circles is to provide safe spaces for participants to vent and share internal and external experiences that impede the progression of mental wellness in their environments. There is no degree requirement for this Training. *Certificate granted*

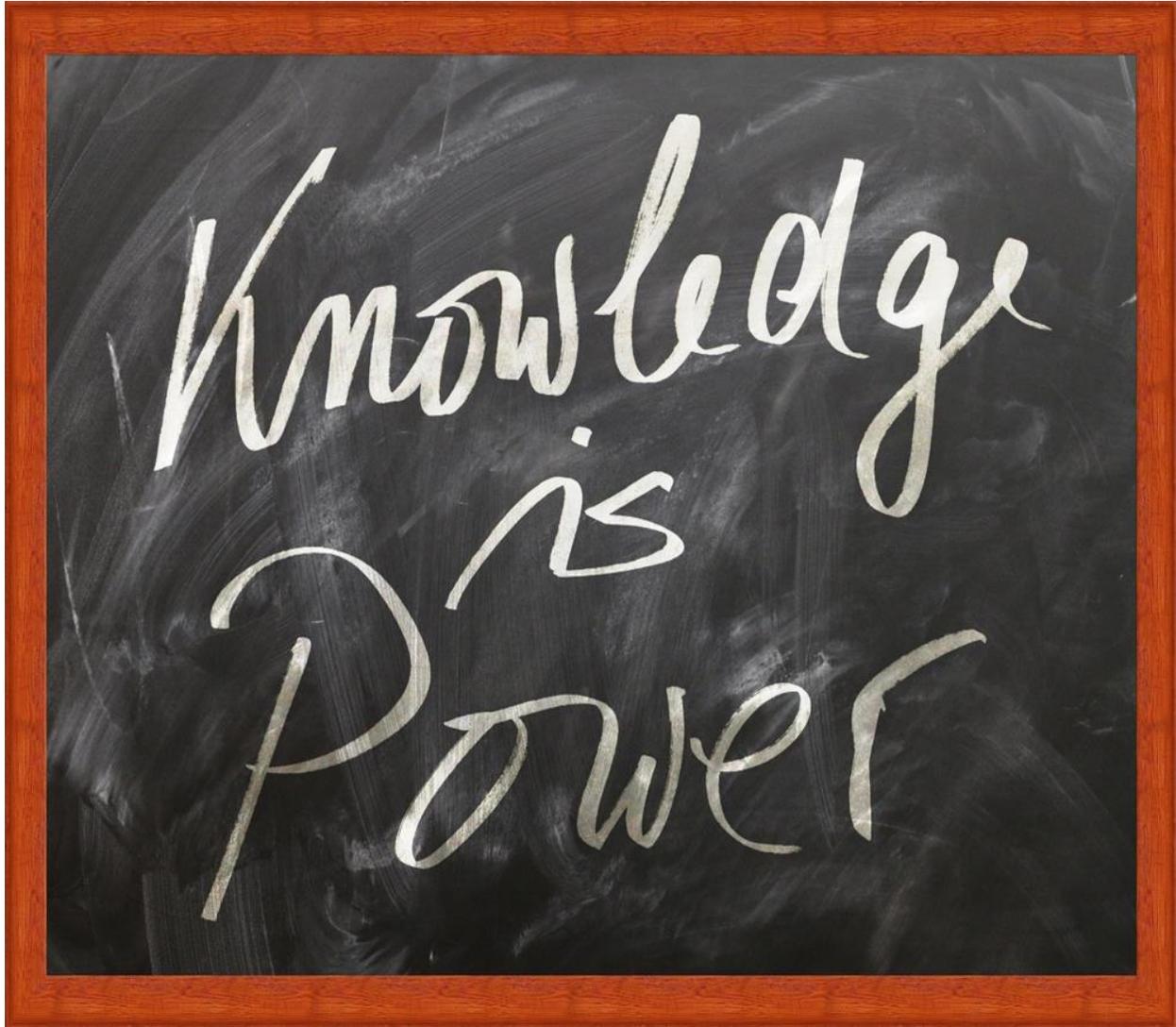
Community Liaison

This is a community program to provide and discuss with community leaders the importance to and how to engage with families and grass roots organizations to effectively integrate established programs and provide resources that will build community capacity to foster a safe environment and how to engage with government agencies, serve on local boards and have their voices heard. *Community Certificate granted.*



PATH INVESTMENT SCALE

PATHS	REGISTRATION	PROGRAM	START DATE	INVESTMENT CYCLE
	Virtual Dec. 11		DAY	Per Learner
	In-Person Dec. 18		Saturdays	
Root Psychology 1	December 11	Six (6) Months Ten (10) Learner Max per cycle	January 15 to February 12 B R E A K February 26 to March 26 6 to 8 PM	\$699 per cycle
Root Psychology 2		Twelve (12) Months	Prerequisite Root Psychology 1	\$699 per cycle
			Thursdays	
Ancestral Healing	December 11	Twelve (12) Months at Ten (10) week Intervals	January 13 - March 17 6 to 8 PM	\$399 per cycle
African Spirituality 1	December 11	Three (3) Months	January 11 - March 29 6 to 8 PM	\$399
African Spirituality 2	December 11	Three (3) Months		\$399
African Spirituality 3	December 11	Three' (3) Months		\$399
Social Work Services	December 11	Six (6) Months	January 22 – March 26 Ten (10) Weeks TBD	\$399
AH Healing Circle Facilitator	July 10	Ten (10) Weeks	September 6- November 8 Tuesdays	\$150 per participant
Community Liaison	December 11	Three (3) Months	January 12 – March 30	\$100 per participant

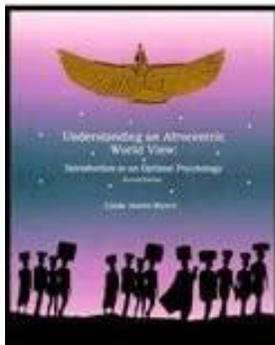


“...Historical facts are all pervasive and cut through the
most rigid barriers of race and caste,”

John Hope Franklin, 1947



Optimal psychology was inspired by **Dr. Linda James Myers'** questions regarding the



mindsets needed to uphold white supremacist views, and a need to explore African and Eastern worldviews that traditional western psychology had overlooked. Optimal psychology focuses on the interconnectedness that one has to all living people and things, and the important role that one's culture and spiritual nature can have in creating healthy mindsets. The book ***“Understanding of Afrocentric World View: Introduction to an Optimal Psychology”*** is her most notable work. She also coedited *Re-Centering Culture and Knowledge in Conflict Resolution Practice*. Over her career spanning more than 30 years, James

Myers has acquired many awards including: the *Distinguished Psychologist Award* from the Association of Black Psychologists, the *Bethune/Woodson Award* for Outstanding Contributions in the Development of Promotion of Black Studies from the National Council of Black Studies, the *Oni Award* by the International Black Women's Congress, and the *Building to Eternity Award* from the Association for the Study of Classical African Civilization.