The CSIEME Framework 2018-2019 is dedicated to supporting the on-going, collaborative creation and actualization of a liberatory culture that informs and through which we engage all of our work with one another, with students, in schools, in communities, and through scholarship.

The CSIEME Framework 2018-2019 seeks to reciprocally and reflexively link radical/emancipatory theory with radical/emancipatory praxis.

As such, the CSIEME Framework 2018-2019 is integral to all that we do in the CSIEME program, from relationship and community building, to program orientations, to courses, to extracurricular activities, to benchmarks, to culminating assignments (CIG 697, thesis, dissertation), and to the work we do beyond the program.

The CSIEME Framework 2018-2019 draws from and, therefore, is defined by the following elements:

1) A challenge to the work of social justice as work that, despite its best efforts to the contrary, can “prioritize the needs of some over the conditions of others.” We must engage this challenge with an equity consciousness in seeking to build durable coalitions that work for justice.

See Center for Culturally Responsive Evaluation and Assessment (CREA) Fifth International Conference Purpose: https://crea.education.illinois.edu/home/fifth-international-conference


2) A main complexity of the work of social justice is welcoming different, complex interpretations/understandings of/in the work, but also correcting clear misinterpretations/misunderstandings of/in the work, including our own. We must welcome and we must self/correct.


3) We must understand how “diversity and inclusion” have been co-opted and recuperated to appease, and re/engage “equity and justice” to transform.


4) We must speak truth to ourselves, with one another, and to power; social justice work requires us to ‘tell it like it is’!


5) We must recognize and work to reconcile, through social justice action, the complex, dialectical relationship between private interests and the public good, especially the threatening impact of private corporate interests in public education.


6) We must continuously re/commit ourselves to dialogue—to listening to understand, not to gain advantage, centering race dialogue as concomitantly (im)possible, and recognizing that freedom from injustice requires ‘re-cognition’ of race and racism simultaneous with understanding of the intersecting nature of racism, classism, sexism, and all other forms of oppression.


7) We must put the work of social justice into meaningful and effective action by: a) getting proximate; b) changing the narrative; c) staying hopeful; and, d) being willing to do things that are inconvenient and uncomfortable.


8) We must to always tether a social justice, sociopolitically-located, critical, movement-oriented, community-embedded consciousness to the work of cultural studies, international education, and multicultural education.


The CSIEME Framework 2018-2019 is a living document that will adapt and shift over time through our co-engagement with and co-enactment of it.