

Multispecies Competency Worksheet

Unitarian Universalist Animal Ministry

Instructions: Rank where you are as an individual below on a scale of 1-5 with 5 being the highest understanding, ability or competency. This worksheet is meant as a discussion tool and a guide to learning and increasing multispecies awareness and competency. We discourage its use to pass judgment on others, or otherwise label or categorize people by their thoughts and actions. You will find that there are many commonalities between multicultural and multispecies competencies.

As speaking of multispecies awareness and competency is part of a new paradigm and exploratory field, we encourage your feedback on how this worksheet worked for you and how we might improve it. (www.uuam.org).

1. I can discuss evolution leading up to *Homo sapiens* (humans).

1 Not at all 2 Very little 3 Somewhat 4 Well enough 5 Very well

2. I can identify the species of great apes and their similarities and differences to *Homo sapiens*.

1 Not at all 2 Very little 3 Somewhat 4 Well enough 5 Very well

3. I am aware of how my cultural background and experiences have influenced my attitudes towards other species.

1 Not at all 2 Very little 3 Somewhat 4 Well enough 5 Very well

4. I am able to discuss with others how my culture has influenced the way I think of other species and transpecies relationships.

1 Not at all 2 Very little 3 Somewhat 4 Well enough 5 Very well

5. I can recognize when my attitudes, beliefs, and values are interfering with providing the best services, care, and behavior to my organization, and human and ecological communities.

1 Not at all 2 Very little 3 Somewhat 4 Well enough 5 Very well

6. I can discuss with other humans my views on other species in an accepting and nonjudgmental way.

1 Not at all 2 Very little 3 Somewhat 4 Well enough 5 Very well

7. I verbally communicate my acceptance of different species and that they have inherent worthy and dignity (with humans and with other species).

1 Not at all 2 Very little 3 Somewhat 4 Well enough 5 Very well

8. I nonverbally communicate my acceptance of different species and that they have inherent worth and dignity (with humans and with other species).

1 Not at all 2 Very little 3 Somewhat 4 Well enough 5 Very well

9. I can discuss my family's perspective regarding acceptable and non-acceptable codes of conduct to other species.

1 Not at all 2 Very little 3 Somewhat 4 Well enough 5 Very well

10. I can define speciesism.

1 Not at all 2 Very little 3 Somewhat 4 Well enough 5 Very well

11. I can define institutional speciesism.

1 Not at all 2 Very little 3 Somewhat 4 Well enough 5 Very well

12. I can define stereotypes.

1 Not at all 2 Very little 3 Somewhat 4 Well enough 5 Very well

13. I can identify the cultural and species basis of my communication style.

1 Not at all 2 Very little 3 Somewhat 4 Well enough 5 Very well

14. I can identify the cultural and species basis of other species' communication styles.

1 Not at all 2 Very little 3 Somewhat 4 Well enough 5 Very well

15. I can identify my negative and positive emotional reactions towards those of other species.

1 Not at all 2 Very little 3 Somewhat 4 Well enough 5 Very well

16. I can identify my reactions and behavior that are based on stereotypical beliefs about different species.

1 Not at all 2 Very little 3 Somewhat 4 Well enough 5 Very well

17. I can identify when I characterize other species by projecting human qualities upon them without considering their unique species and individual traits.

1 Not at all 2 Very little 3 Somewhat 4 Well enough 5 Very well

18. I can identify when I communicate (listen and speak) with other species without regard to how that particular species communicates.

1 Not at all 2 Very little 3 Somewhat 4 Well enough 5 Very well

19. Is there anything else you would like to explore or discuss at this time in regards to transspecies relationships?