

**IMAGINE A  
CULTURALLY  
COMPETENT  
AUSTRALIA**



# CLOSING THE GAP THROUGH EDUCATION

## ABOUT CCCA

The Centre for Cultural Competence Australia (CCCA) is an organisation dedicated to the training and development of individuals and organisations in the field of 'Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Competence'.

Founded by professionals and experts within the fields of Indigenous Research & Development; technology; and communications the Centre for Cultural Competence Australia is committed to building the cultural competence of individuals, service providers, organisations, and state and federal departments.

## THE KNOWLEDGE GAP

The biggest gap that still remains between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and non-Indigenous Australians is the cultural gap which exists due to a lack of education, knowledge and understanding.

Australia cannot close the gap until non-Indigenous Australians increase their understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and develop the skills to become culturally competent at both a personal and professional level.

## ATTRACTING AND RETAINING ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER STAFF

The first step when recruiting and managing Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander staff is to ensure that you have a 'Culturally Competent Workplace and Workforce'.

By training your workforce in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture you will position your organisation as an 'Employer of Choice' for Indigenous candidates; reduce cultural risks within the workplace; change the attitudes and behaviours of your workforce; increase engagement; and successfully attract and retain staff.

## DELIVERING BETTER SERVICE OUTCOMES FOR ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLES

Training staff to a foundation level of cultural competence within organisations will result in more culturally appropriate and effective systems provision and service delivery, ultimately resulting in better outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. For non-Indigenous and Indigenous employees alike it will result in increased capabilities and learning outcomes.

## CCCA'S VISION

To create a Culturally Competent Australia.

Archaeological evidence of Aboriginal people existing in Arnhem Land

60,000 years ago

Aboriginal contact with various Melanesian groups of Papua New Guinea and the Torres Strait Islands

Pre-1451

Dutch explorers record Indigenous traders from Indonesia to northern Australia

1451

Earliest recorded contact between Europeans and Aboriginal

1600s



# A POWERFUL NEW RESOURCE

CCCA has developed its courses in collaboration with some of Australia's leading Indigenous and non-Indigenous academics and professionals, with extensive experience working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and in Indigenous contexts.

The courses are designed to provide individuals with a foundation of knowledge about the history of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in Australia, their cultures, and the effects of colonisation and government policies and practices.

CCCA courses have been developed as a precursor to face to face, local and role specific training. Typically CCCA's foundation courses will be a first step in an existing program that enables staff to build and apply knowledge in a practical and structured way.

This foundation of knowledge can then serve as the basis for the development of skills to enable effective and appropriate communication and engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities across the nation with the assistance of further training activities.

## COMPETENCE BASED TRAINING

All CCCA courses are competence based as opposed to outdated awareness models. This means that each course has been developed on core competencies that have been recognised and accredited by a Registered Training Organisation (RTO).

## ACCREDITED COURSES

CCCA courses are accredited by TAFE, as well as other Australian peak bodies and associations. For a complete list please visit

[www.ccca.com.au/accreditations](http://www.ccca.com.au/accreditations)

## ONLINE DELIVERY

CCCA courses are delivered online, providing a flexible learning platform for individuals and organisations.

Courses typically take between 7-10 hours to complete, but individuals can complete the training at their own pace.

The courses have been developed in a linear structure to ensure an engaging one on one user experience, which combined with the competency based approach deliver guaranteed learning outcomes and increased staff or individual capabilities.

“  
CCCA is the only provider of online, accredited, competency based Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural training in Australia.  
”

Lieutenant Cook lands in Botany Bay, and claims possession under the doctrine of 'terra nullius'

1770

Colony of Port Jackson is established, and transportation of convicts begins

1788

Outbreak of smallpox introduced by the British devastates Aboriginal population

1789

Pemulwuy leads a campaign of resistance against British settlers on the land of the Dharug people

1804



# DEFINING CULTURAL COMPETENCE

## CULTURAL AWARENESS

Training relating to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history and culture is often referred to by the term 'cultural awareness'. However cultural awareness is an outdated concept which has been criticised widely for its many shortcomings, particularly its failure to effect change in behaviour and therefore service delivery.

Another major challenge with 'cultural awareness' is that participants typically do not have to display the achievement of any competencies. Therefore, cultural awareness programs and sessions that do not have assessments and measurable outcomes cannot be defined as training.

## CULTURAL COMPETENCE

'Cultural Competence' has been defined as:

...a set of congruent behaviours, attitudes and policies that come together in a system, agency or among professionals and enables that system, agency, or those professionals to work effectively in cross-cultural situations.<sup>i</sup>

And the process in which the:

...professional continually strives to achieve ability and availability to effectively work within the cultural context of the client.

Operationally defined, cultural competence is:

...the integration and transformation of knowledge about individuals and groups of people into specific standards, policies, practices, and attitudes used in appropriate cultural settings to increase the quality of services, thereby producing better outcomes.<sup>ii</sup>

Colonists are authorised to shoot Aboriginal people in response to resistance to settlement

1804

Martial law is declared in Bathurst, NSW when seven Europeans are killed by Aboriginal people

1824

Tasmanian Aboriginal people are forcibly settled on Flinders Island

1830

The Battle (Massacre) of Pinjarra in Western Australia

1834

# WHY COMPETENCE IS MORE APPROPRIATE

From an organisational perspective Cultural Competence focuses on the attributes of the service provider and service provision and is best viewed as an ongoing process that organisations continue to strive towards.

A culturally competent organisation or department that understands the impact of history and contemporary cultural practice and protocols will deliver better outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

For an individual, Cultural Competence is the ability to identify and challenge one's own cultural assumptions, values and beliefs. It is about developing empathy and appreciating that there are many different ways of viewing the world, as this is influenced by culture.

Cultural Competence Training has competencies which must be achieved and which are recognised and accredited by a Registered Training Organisation.

## A BEST PRACTICE APPROACH

All courses developed and provided by CCCA adhere to best practice principles arising from the available evidence base, as well as from extensive consultation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander academics, professionals, leaders, peak bodies, organisations and communities.

CCCA's Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Cultural Competence Courses are unique in that they are online and competency-based.

Competency based training is a structured approach to training and assessment that is directed towards achieving specific outcomes.

Participants must display that they have achieved these competencies in order to progress through and successfully complete the courses.

Courses address knowledge and awareness, behaviour and practice, and emphasises relationships and partnerships.

Curriculums target not only the individual level, but also the professional, organisational and systemic levels.

“ Cultural Competence requires demonstration of understanding of the subject matter and assessment, with the ultimate aim to change behaviour. ”

<sup>i</sup> Cross, R. et al (1989) towards a Culturally Competent System of Care.

<sup>ii</sup> Davis, K. (1997) Exploring the intersection between culturally competency and managed behavioural health care policy.

British Select Committee recommends 'Protectors of Aborigines' be appointed

1837

Myall Creek Massacre – Settlers shoot 28 Aboriginal people near Inverell, NSW

1838

The Board for the Protection of Aborigines is established in Victoria

1869

The NSW Aborigines Protection Board is established

1883



# A PATHWAY TO CULTURAL COMPETENCE

## ONGOING LEARNING

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and cultures are not static, it is therefore imperative that training is current and continual. Achieving cultural competence is an ongoing process. The following steps outline CCCA's recommended pathway for individuals and organisations to achieve cultural competence.

## STEP 1: FOUNDATION KNOWLEDGE

**Resource:** CCCA Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Cultural Competence Course

**Content:** This Course provides a foundation of knowledge regarding the history of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, including general aspects of culture, and the immediate and ongoing effects of past and present government policies targeting Australian Indigenous people from colonisation to current day.

The Course also provides general skills for engaging with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and communities, in terms of personal conduct and protocols, and assists the participant to develop their own customised and detailed action plan.

**Pre-requisites:** None

**Who:** Everyone and anyone. This course provides the foundation level training required for any further local-specific and/or role-specific training. Organisations are advised to ensure all staff complete this level.

**Where:** This Course is provided by CCCA as an online course.

## STEP 2: LOCAL-SPECIFIC TRAINING

**Resource:** Many courses and training programs are available in many regions of Australia that provide local-specific knowledge and skills. The Foundation Course completed in Step 1 can assist in determining the location of such courses and training.

**Content:** Local-specific courses and training programs typically address Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander local demographics, culture and history.

**Pre-requisites:** Step 1: Foundation – CCCA Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Cultural Competence Course

**Who:** Everyone and anyone could and should complete such training. However, an organisation may commonly choose to offer this to staff in roles who are required to have direct involvement with local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and communities.

**Where:** Local-specific courses and training are typically provided by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations and individuals in a particular region. CCCA can assist in the identification of relevant, quality training providers and courses.

Australia becomes a Federation. The Constitution states that the Commonwealth would legislate for any race except Aborigines

1901

In NSW, The Aborigines Protection Act 1909 becomes the primary statute governing Aboriginal lives

1909

Aboriginal people serve in World War I and are among Australian troops at Gallipoli

1914

The NSW Aborigines Protection Board is given powers to remove Aboriginal children without a court hearing

1915

# CCCA ADVOCATES LOCAL-SPECIFIC TRAINING

## STEP 3: ROLE-SPECIFIC

**Resource:** Many courses and training programs target particular professions or roles.

**Content:** Role-specific courses and training programs typically address personal and professional conduct and cultural factors and protocols relevant to a particular profession or role. Much of this information will also need to be local-specific as it may differ from region to region.

**Pre-requisites:** Step 1: Foundation – Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Cultural Competence Course

**Who:** Everyone and anyone could and should complete such training. However, an organisation may commonly choose to offer this to staff in roles who are required to have direct involvement with local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and communities.

**Where:** Role-specific courses and training are typically provided by industry peak bodies, training institutions, as well as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations and individuals in a particular region. CCCA can assist in the location of courses and training.

## STEP 4: SYSTEMS & SERVICE PROVISION

**Resource:** Developing a Cultural Competence Framework; Developing an Aboriginal Employment Strategy.

**Content:** These resources assist an organisation or individual to address all manner of systems and service provision in terms of developing customised strategies to ensure cultural competence.

**Pre-requisites:** Step 1: Foundation – Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Cultural Competence Course

**Who:** These resources are ideally suited to those in a managerial or HR capacity. However, many organisations may choose to allocate the project of developing an Aboriginal Employment Strategy and/or a Cultural Competence Framework to a particular staff member.

**Where:** Please contact CCCA directly if you are interested in more information on either of these Resources.



CCCA's powerful resources enable individuals and organisations to take the first step on a pathway to Cultural Competence.



## CUSTOMISING COURSES TO SUIT YOUR NEEDS

Many large organisations and government departments require training of a large volume of staff, and may have particular information they wish to include.

CCCA is able to customise training to suit your needs. Please contact us for more information.

Tel: 1300 240 944

Email: [info@ccca.com.au](mailto:info@ccca.com.au)

Australian Aborigines' Progressive Association is formed to oppose NSW Aborigines Protection Board

1925

Coniston Massacre (NT) Europeans shoot 32 Aborigines

1928

First Commonwealth/ State conference on 'native welfare' adopts assimilation as the national policy

1937

World War II begins. Aboriginal people serve in Europe, the Middle East, the Pacific and New Guinea

1939





# COURSE CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

The following information provides an overview of the core curriculum for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Competence course. The course is designed to develop capabilities and build cultural competence in course participants whatever their level of knowledge in Aboriginal cultural education.

## COMPONENT ONE

### Why Cultural Competence

Component One explores what cultural competence is and why it is important. It helps participants understand why they are doing the course and specifically what capabilities they will develop at the end.

This first component explores how cultural competence benefits a number of key stakeholders and examines some of the barriers to achieving a culturally competent workforce or organisation. The effects of racism, institutional racism and discrimination towards Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples are explored through personal stories and shared videos.

## COMPONENT TWO

### Australia's First Peoples

Component Two introduces the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. It provides an overview of population demographics and gives a basic understanding of appropriate terminology, language groups and identity.

Through shared stories this component explores the key issues relating to identity and acknowledges the different perspectives of what identity means to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and how it differs within different communities.

## COMPONENT THREE

### Worldviews, Kinship and Culture

Component Three introduces Aboriginal philosophy, exploring the Dreaming. Specifically it examines the differences between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and Western worldviews, and the connection to land.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander kinship systems are described, together with examples

of the practical implications of kinship systems. Brief overviews are also provided of a variety of aspects of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures.

## COMPONENT FOUR

### Initial Contact: Dispossession and Extermination

Component Four identifies evidence of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander occupation of Australia from as early as 60,000 years ago, and details the European 'discovery' of Australia and colonisation.

This component provides an insight into the predominant Western (non-Indigenous) worldview at the time of European colonisation of Australia, and how this influenced terra nullius and the initial approaches to dealing with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Specifically it highlights their harsh treatment including dispossession and extermination.

Some case examples of massacres and Aboriginal resistance fighters are included and help illustrate the frontier violence of the period.

The NSW Aborigines Protection Board loses its power to remove Aboriginal children

1940

'Freedom Ride' by Aboriginal people and students is led by Charles Perkins into North Western NSW in support of Aboriginal rights

1965

Constitutional Referendum on Aboriginal Rights is held

1967

Commonwealth government establishes Office of Aboriginal Affairs

1968



# DELIVERING GUARANTEED LEARNING OUTCOMES

## COMPONENT FIVE

### Early Colonisation through to the Second World War: Protection, Segregation and Assimilation

Component Five covers the first legislative policies relating to Australia's First Peoples including the Aborigines Protection Act and provides a background to the protection and segregation period from early colonization to the 1920's and how this laid the foundations for the assimilation era and the philosophy of absorption that followed.

Specific examples of restrictions imposed on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples during this era are detailed including the forced removal of Aboriginal peoples from their traditional lands into reserves and missions and the exemption certificate.

This component also examines events that occurred after 1930 during the assimilation era that was characterized by the forcible removal of Aboriginal children from their families, now commonly known as the Stolen Generation.

## COMPONENT SIX

### Aboriginal Agency: Protest and Resistance

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples resisted these imposed restrictions and sanctions through active resistance and collective action in different states throughout Australia. Component Six highlights examples of resistance during the period of 1938 – 1975.

These include the Day of Mourning and Protest, the Aboriginal Stockmen's Strike in Western Australia, the Gurindji Land Rights Strike, the Freedom Rides and the Constitutional Referendum on Aboriginal Rights held in 1967.

## COMPONENT SEVEN

### Recent Times: 1973 – 2008

Component Seven includes an overview of policy and legislation affecting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and the impacts of those policies from 1973 to 2008. It covers the policies of Self Determination, Self Management and Reconciliation and details how they relate to past and present government policies and why they are important.

Key events are explored including, The Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody, Land Rights and Native Title, Northern Territory Emergency Response and the Apology.

## COMPONENT EIGHT

### Recent Times: 2008 – Present Day

Component Eight addresses the key developments in Aboriginal Affairs post the Apology and looks at significant events under the respective Gillard, Rudd and Abbott Governments. It examines what has changed for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today and gives an overview of the current situation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in terms of health and wellbeing.

## COMPONENT NINE

### Torres Strait Islander Peoples

Component Nine provides an overview of Torres Strait Islander peoples and cultures, including how these groups were specifically affected by the events of colonisation and subsequent policies targeting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

## COMPONENT TEN

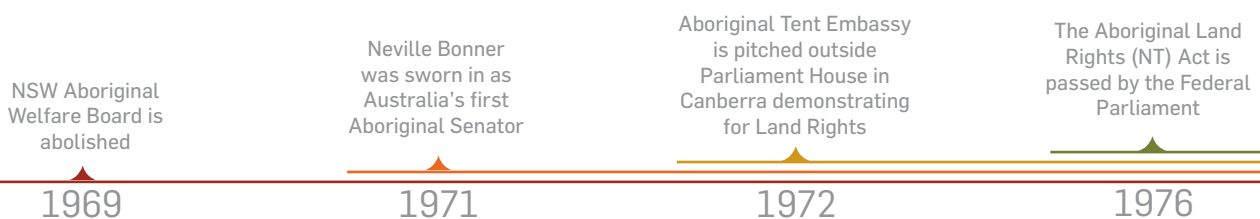
### Cultural Education in Practice

Component Ten explores a number of practical aspects of Aboriginal Cultural Education and provides a useful guide for working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and communities. It explores common myths and misconceptions and addresses issues such as personal presentation and conduct, communication, roles, responsibilities, obligations, working within the kinship network, and respect for cultural protocols.

## ACTION PLAN

This final stage of the course requires the participant to develop their own locally-specific Action Plan to use and refer to once they have finished the course. Hints are provided to help the participant successfully and comprehensively develop their Action Plan, which can be saved as a PDF for future reference upon completion.

This activity may be completed by the individual on their own, or in situations where a number of participants completing the course work in the same region this activity may be workshopped as a group.





# ACCREDITATIONS AND ENDORSEMENTS

All CCCA courses are competence based and accredited by a Registered Training Organisation (RTO), as well as relevant industry peak bodies and associations.

CCCA courses are designed to develop both organisational and individual cultural competence.

CCCA recognises the importance for organisations to provide effective training and development to their employees, to further their development.

## TAFE ACCREDITATION

CCCA has partnered with TAFE to accredit its courses. The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Competence Course provides individuals with a Nationally recognised qualification:

- A Course in Aboriginal Education
- National Code: 10213NAT
- TAFE Course No.: 10833
- Units of Competence: NSWFACE401A; NSWFACE402A and NSWFACE403A.

CCCA is continuing to work with TAFE to align the course to additional, higher level qualifications.

A non-TAFE accredited version of the course is also available.

## PEAK BODIES AND ASSOCIATIONS

In addition, CCCA is working with a wide range of peak bodies to accredit and endorse the course.

These peak bodies represent a wide range of industries and professions, and such accreditations and endorsement enables members of these peak bodies to claim Continual Professional Development points.

For a complete list of accreditations and endorsements visit:

[www.ccca.com.au/accreditations](http://www.ccca.com.au/accreditations)

## ADVISORY RESOURCES

To ensure the relevance and accuracy of courses, CCCA is supported by a number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait organisations together with the Aboriginal Directorate at TAFE NSW. CCCA will also be launching details of a new Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Panel in 2015.

Nine Pintupi people who had been living on their country in South Australia meet non-Aboriginal people for the first time

1984

The Bicentennial celebration of British Settlement in Australia - Barunga Statement by Prime Minister Hawke

1988

The Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation is established

1991

The High Court of Australia hands down its landmark decision in Mabo vs Queensland

1992

# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND FREE DEMONSTRATION

## FREE DEMONSTRATION

For a no obligation preview of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Competence course visit:

[www.ccca.com.au/demo-registration](http://www.ccca.com.au/demo-registration)

## PRICING

The cost for the TAFE Accredited foundation in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Competence Course is \$247.50\* + GST per licence per person.

The cost for the non-TAFE Accredited foundation in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Competence Course is \$175\* + GST per licence per person.

\* Volume discounts may apply, for more information.

Please contact us for more information.

Tel: 1300 240 944

Email: [enquiries@ccca.com.au](mailto:enquiries@ccca.com.au)

## COURSE DURATION

Due to the online nature of the course individuals can register and start their training 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

The course itself will take individuals approximately 7-10 hours to complete.

## GETTING STARTED

Enrolling and commencing training could not be easier. Simply purchase the number of licences you require and your personal or company account will be established and activated immediately.

Once the account is activated users can be added and invited to undertake the course through a personalised email.

Individuals are able to complete the course at their own pace.

## COMPLETION

Upon the successful completion of the course, individuals will be awarded with a Certificate of Completion from CCCA.

In addition, all relevant information will be provided to TAFE and the relevant peak bodies and associations for processing and certification.

Certification and CPD point allocation will be managed directly by the organisations.

## CONTACT CCCA

For more information on CCCA and the courses we provide please contact us at:

Tel: 1300 240 944

Email: [enquiries@ccca.com.au](mailto:enquiries@ccca.com.au)

“  
CCCA is setting the standard in cultural training, delivering positive behavioural change through its competency based courses.  
”

The High Court hands down its decision in the Wik Case

1996

The Human Rights & Equal Opportunity Commission presents Bringing Them Home

1997

The Intervention – NT Emergency Response to the Little Children are Sacred Report

2007

Prime Minister Kevin Rudd formally apologises to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples for abuse under past governments

2008