

Moussa Magassa works as the University of Victoria Human Rights Education Advisor where he focuses to enhance understanding of and commitment to the university's human rights and equity goals by raising the awareness of students, staff, faculty, supervisory personnel and administrators on a range of human rights issues with the end goal of increasing diversity and creating fair and inclusive work and study environment at UVic. In addition, Moussa also works as an adjunct faculty and teaches the courses “Immigration and Refugee Studies”; “Beyond Diversity and Human Rights: Creating inclusive organizations and communities”; and “Indigenous conflict resolution approaches in the African context” a module in the course “Interdisciplinary perspectives on Sub-Saharan Africa”.

Moussa came to UVic from the Immigrant Services of BC in Vancouver where he was coordinating and promoting integration and adaptation programs for refugees and immigrants in Canada. Moussa has also worked in many places around the world and especially in the demilitarization field in post-Apartheid South Africa. Moussa specialized in conflict analysis/resolution, non-violence peace education, human rights and curriculum design. Moussa also operates his own consultant firm, Hille-Magassa & Associates, specializing in intercultural communication curriculum design and training, research, program evaluation, etc.

Moussa holds an M.A in Human Security and Peacebuilding from the Royal Roads University and a BA (Hons) in Conflict Resolution and Peace Studies from Kwazulu Natal University, South Africa.

Moussa often professes:

I believe in the African concept of Ubuntu, that people are people because of other people. This best speaks to our common humanity, and also to our responsibility as human beings towards each other. Otherwise, our rights to be human, to be acknowledged, respected and accepted by others.

I define myself as the kind of person who believes in the crucial importance of relationships, of the human interactions and particularly of the reality that not only our human issues are interconnected but that our life can't evolve outside of each other. Peace is what I believe in as the only and sustainable alternative for all of us. This is what I everyday look forward to when I wake up.