

CULTURALLY RELEVANT PEDAGOGY FIVE PURSUITS

A pedagogical framework developed by **Dr. Gholnecsar (Gholdy) Muhammad** to support the success of historically marginalized students, particularly African American youth.

The Five Pursuits—**Identity, Skills, Intellect, Criticality, and Joy**—guide teachers in designing instruction that is academically rigorous, culturally responsive, and socially conscious. This framework positions students as whole beings, cultivating not only knowledge and skills, but also cultural affirmation, critical awareness, and joyful learning.



IDENTITY

Students know who they are.

Advancing students' knowledge and affirmation of self and others.



SKILLS

Students have the skills to learn and express their knowledge.

Advancing students' content area skills and proficiencies.



INTELLECT

What students know.

Advancing students' knowledge put into action.



CRITICALITY

How students engage with their learning.

Advancing students' understanding of oppression, equity, and anti-racism.



JOY

How students find beauty and take action.

Advancing students' happiness by delivering excellence in their learning experiences and embracing student self and cultural identity.