TIPS FOR PRACTICING RELIGIOUS LITERACY

1. Reflect diversity, accounting for the complex and intersectional identities of our constituents.

2. Root in face-to-face encounters and relationship building within and between communities & individuals.

3. Make it clear that there are no ramifications for making requests for religious and spiritual observance or practice.

4. Ask people about their practices. Not everyone in a religious or spiritual community practice the same way.

5. Events should be easily accessible and comfortable for all participants. Consider holidays and prayer times.

6. Ensure that the structure of the event is inclusive. Consider dietary needs and physical contact.

7. Make sure that a dress code does not conflict with someone’s religious observance.

8. Be sensitive of imagery that can be offensive to a particular religion or religion in general.

9. Use inclusive language to welcome students who do not identify with a faith tradition or identity as atheist or agnostic.

Adapted from interfaith guidelines at Global Spiritual Life at NYU