

Reconceptualization of the UU History Spark Module to TWO modules: Request for Proposals

Application Deadline: 12 noon ET, Friday, May 15, 2026

Primary Contact: Rev. Sarah Gettie McNeill, Professional Development Programs Manager, Lifespan Faith Engagement Office, Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA)

Expected Start Date: June 2026

Expected Completion Date: June 15, 2027

Compensation: Commensurate with the level of revision to be completed, up to \$10,000 for both modules, to be shared between co-authors

NEW MODULE GOALS

The goal of this program is to give participants a sense of the broad scope of Universalist, Unitarian, and Unitarian Universalist history and some of the key stories that are part of that history, so that participants are able to:

- Share the history of our movement with others in developmentally-appropriate ways, grounded in accessible storytelling;
- Learn the techniques for researching and grounding historical stories for worship, small group, classroom, social media, and other settings;
- Understand and explain how the history of their congregation or geographical area fits in with the history of the broader movement;
- Articulate the history behind some of the theologies and traditions that are important to contemporary Unitarian Universalism;
- Understand how we came to be who we are as a movement within the broader interfaith world and our six sources, including the influences of Protestant Christianity and Hinduism; and
- Tell the history of UUism in a way that fully reflects the strengths and challenges of who we are, especially regarding diverse identities in our faith.

MODULE LAYOUT

Given the breadth and depth of the material, this module will need to be written as 12 two-hour sessions and formatted into two 6-session modules. The content should have continuity, but the authors will have some autonomy in deciding how to separate the information into the two modules.

CONSULTANT REQUIREMENTS

- Deep understanding of the layered complexity of our Universalist, Unitarian, and UU history, especially with regards to the dynamics of race and oppression in our faith.
- Curiosity and willingness to examine current UU historical research to integrate modern findings, including speaking with UU historians and using Dan McKanan's *Documentary History of Unitarian Universalism*, vols. I and II for original source texts.





- Experience in writing curricula inclusive of the needs of all peoples and caucusing necessary for this purpose, including identities such as race, neurodivergence, varying socioeconomic statuses, gender identity and sexual orientation, disability, and family structure.
- Willingness and ability to work flexibly and collaboratively with co-author(s) and UUA staff. Progress check-in meetings every 2-4 weeks are required with the Professional Development Programs Manager until the project is complete.
- Ability to take initiative, set priorities, and manage time well.
- Skill and ability to develop experiential curriculum that reflects the *Our Whole Lives* values of Self-Worth, Responsibility, Sexual Health, Justice and Inclusivity.
- Skill and ability to develop multimedia curriculum with use of video and other media. This module will utilize the [UU Institute](#) learning management system (LMS) on WordPress for asynchronous content delivery. Consultant will be required to meet with the UU Institute Webmaster and upload content to the LMS in consultation with the webmaster.

PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

- Apply with another person as co-author team or apply as an individual willing to partner with a co-author of the UUA's choice.
- Your cover letter should include why you are interested in working on this project and your relevant professional qualifications. Include an explanation of how your unique "lens" as a curriculum developer will help enhance this revised module; in addition, describe your availability to work on the curriculum during 2026-27.
- Create and submit an outline for an online *Reconceptualization of the UU History Spark Module* that includes the ideas you recommend and your rationale for making them. Please remember the altered course length of 12-two-hour sessions making up two separate but related modules in your proposal. Include an outline of each session with learning objectives and rough workshop plans with overviews of new activities. Also include rationale for each session's suggested components. The session descriptions and workshop outlines must include sufficient detail to illustrate how you would reflect current language and understandings of UU History and relevant conversations.
- Developing this curriculum requires the authors to pilot the online curriculum to receive feedback before completing a final edit of the curriculum in partnership with the Professional Development Program Manager. This pilot will likely take place in spring and summer 2027. Should the consultant(s) not wish to pilot the curriculum, the payment for curriculum development will be decreased to cover payment for separate curriculum facilitators.

HOW TO APPLY

People with disabilities, people of the global majority, and LGBTQIA+ candidates are encouraged to apply. Send cover letter, résumé, inclusivity curriculum writing sample, and proposal via e-mail to sgmcneill@uua.org; Rev. Sarah Gettie McNeill.

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uua.org

The application deadline is 12 noon ET, Friday, May 15, 2026. We expect to notify candidates for interviews within six weeks of that date.

ABOUT THE UUA

The Unitarian Universalist Association is a progressive religious denomination headquartered in Boston’s waterfront Fort Point Innovation District. Our faith community of more than 1,000 self-governing congregations brings to the world a vision of religious freedom, tolerance, and social justice. The UUA is an Equal Opportunity Employer. For more information on the UUA, visit us online at UUA.org or uuworld.org.

ABOUT THE UUA’s CREDENTIALING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

The Credentialing and Professional Development Office supports the credentialing and certification programs for music professionals, religious education professionals, and ministers. This office offers professional development trainings for religious professionals, prepares the UUA’s professional obituaries, relates to theological schools, and administers scholarship aid and grants.

