

Middle Eastern Muslim students – an Islamic cultural perspective

Jacqueline Blomfield

Charles Sturt University, Boorooma Street, Wagga Wagga, NSW 2678. www.csu.edu.au jblomfield@csu.edu.au

Defining the difference between the terms 'Muslim' and 'Islamic'; how we relate to Muslim people; handouts of terminology; sharing Homestay and on campus accommodation experiences; interaction with Australian and other international students; cultural/religious sensitivity in course teaching (including English language training); integration into a non-metropolitan community; student expectations and knowledge of Australia (and ways to improve this knowledge).

Accommodation: Private, On-Campus, Homestay

Particular issues raised in accepting the Islamic religion into our everyday life. To be a very interactive session with other participants exploring ways to meet Islamic needs.

Food

A very difficult area either when arranging functions, providing information on 'halal', 'haram', and 'mushbooh' foods or advising students on where to eat and purchase food. Bigger issue in a non-metropolitan location. Interactive with other participants.

Inter-gender relationships

Very confronting for some students coming from segregated societies. Experiences to be shared with other participants.