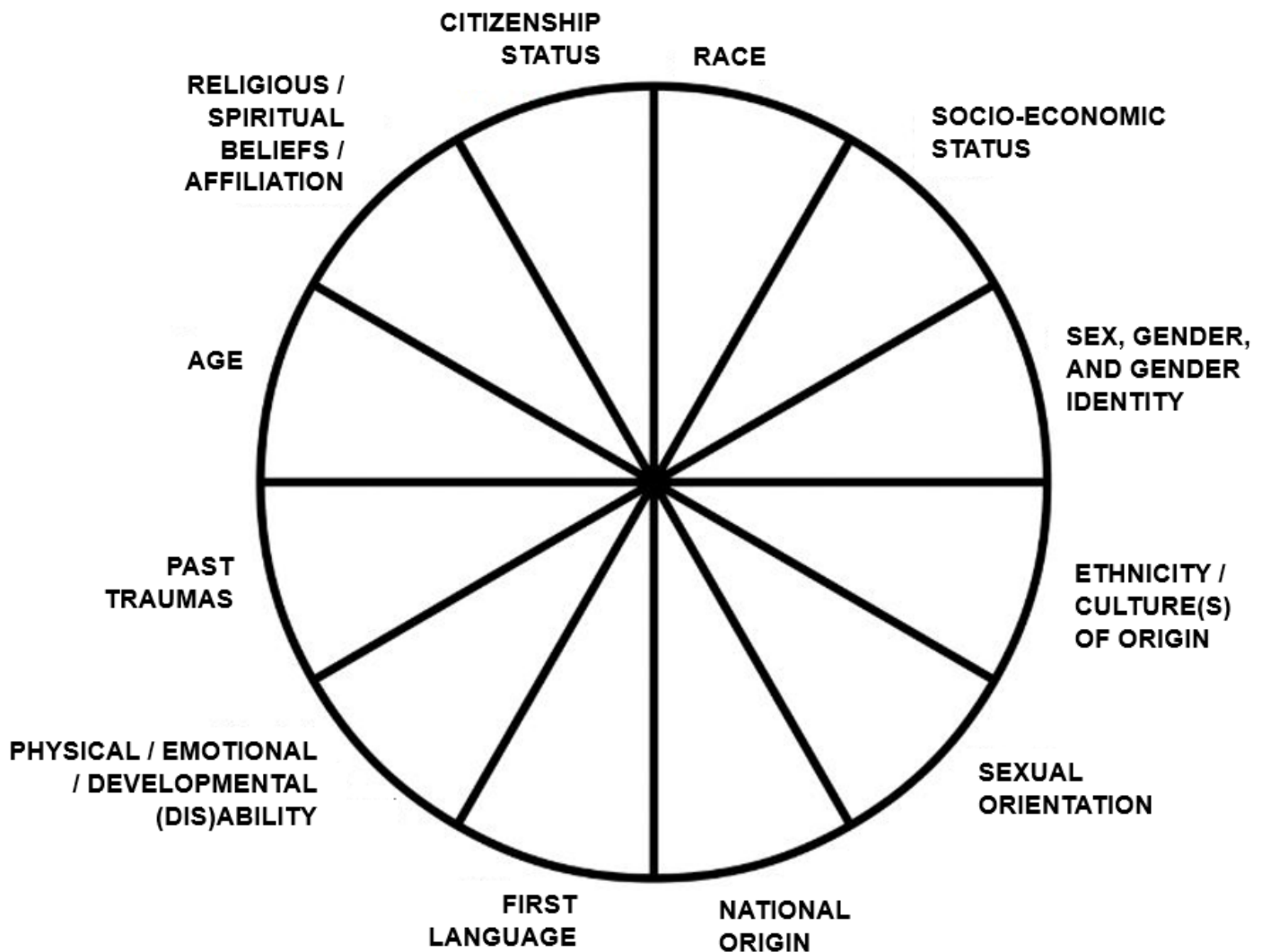


BUILDING BRIDGES LEADERSHIP

Social Identity Wheel

The Social Identity Wheel, adapted from the original version by the University of Michigan's Inclusive Teaching Initiative, provides a lens for us to understand aspects of our own identity - both visible and invisible - that impact who we are, where we experience privilege, and where we face oppression.

Each section of the Social Identity Wheel below is labeled with a particular category of identity. Take some time to look at the categories, and ask yourself how you would describe yourself within each category. Some may come very easily to you, and some may be more challenging - take a mental note of that; that will come in useful as you reflect on this activity later.



Adapted from the University of Michigan Inclusive Teaching Initiative
by Building Bridges Leadership.

Social Identity Wheel

Questions for Reflection

Now that you have articulated a number of facets of your own identity, use these questions to reflect on how these pieces of your identity intersect with each other and interact with the world around you:

1. What part of your identity do you think people first notice about you?
2. Which parts of your identity do you think about most often?
3. Which parts of your identity do you think about least often?
4. Which pieces of your identity intersect with each other in challenging ways?
5. How would the people you choose to spend time with describe themselves in these categories? How much does that overlap with how you describe yourself?
6. What part(s) of your identity bring you the most pride?
7. For what part(s) of your identity do you face oppression most often?
8. For what part of your identity do you receive privilege most often? Does your answer match with an answer from any of the previous questions? If so, which one(s)?