

Global Education Office

2026 SPRING

GLOBAL INITIATIVES MASTER CLASS SERIES: International Student Success



Institutional Preparedness: Are We Culturally Ready to Receive International Students?

February 5, 2026

11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Student Commons - Virginia Salons C-D

This workshop will focus on institutional preparedness for international student success, exploring not only what it means to welcome international students, but how to ensure the campus community is culturally and operationally ready to receive them.

The following topics will be discussed:

- **Whose job is it anyway?** Understanding the shared responsibility across academic affairs, student services, enrollment, faculty, and administration.
- **Creating culturally ready ecosystems of support** - Mapping the touchpoints and removing the silos that impact international student experience.
- **Building an institutional culture of welcome** - Practices that shift beyond compliance toward belonging, cultural humility, and operational alignment.
- **Intersectionality of the work** - Where global learning, academic affairs, advising, student success, mental health, and workforce readiness converge to support international students holistically.
- **Actionable steps to get it done** - Practical frameworks and processes institutions can implement immediately to strengthen readiness and retention.

Fabiola Riobé, Ed.D.

Founder and CEO

Satis Sum Consulting, LLC

About the facilitator:

Dr. Fabiola Riobé is an internationally respected strategist, educator, and business mentor whose work bridges innovation, equity, and global collaboration. As the Founder and CEO of Satis Sum Consulting, LLC, she leads with the belief that every person is inherently enough—and that with intentional guidance and opportunity, individuals and institutions can realize transformative impact.

With over 15 years of experience spanning four continents, Dr. Riobé has helped educational institutions and mission-driven organizations secure over \$10 million in competitive grant funding to launch entrepreneurial ecosystems, workforce development pipelines, and equity-centered programming. Her strategic counsel has been central to the development of microcredential programs, dual-enrollment access, and community-centered innovation hubs.

View more information and register for the workshop at global.vcu.edu/master-class-series/