

Lecture: Learning to Use Peacemaking for Governance and Leadership

Lecturer: **Maija Danilova West** from USA (California)

Date and time: 18:00 (EET) 15 May 2025

Via Zoom:

If you are interested in the lecture, please contact assoc. prof. Dr.sc.soc. Līga Paula Liga.Paula@lbtu.lv by May 15th and you will receive a Zoom link.

Description of lecture:

This lecture explores how to employ peacemaking tools as leaders across private, public, and community sectors. Maija Danilova West, a US/Latvia dual citizen and Fulbright Association Specialist awardee in peacemaking, offers an international perspective drawn from her experience in law, supporting business and NGO leaders, and working with Native American communities. The session will include small group interactive activities. Participants will learn to apply these peacemaking tools to their personal lives, studies, and current or future leadership roles.

Format:

Opening
Lecture
Questions/responses
Small group activity
Closing

About Maija West:



My name is Maija Danilova West, and I am a dual citizen of Latvia and the US. My practices are related directly to my heritage on my mother's side.

My mother's name is Laima Danilovs and she fled the occupation of Latvia during WWII and settled in California with her family as a displaced person. I currently live on the Central Coast of California, in the United States, on the lands of the Salinan, Chalon and Ohlone Peoples.

Navigating the world of law and business, I often find myself asking—how do we lead with wisdom in times of great change? For over 25 years, I have worked as a trusted advisor to nonprofits, foundations, businesses, Tribes, and government agencies. As a former attorney and strategist, I now dedicate my work to leadership training and conflict resolution, weaving together reconciliation and peacemaking practices to foster stronger, more connected communities. As the founder and managing partner of *Maija West Consulting*, I also champion women's voices, believing that women's leadership is vital in shaping the future. My journey has also led me to co-found the Healing and Reconciliation Institute, a testament to my lifelong commitment to bridging divides, strengthening communication, and creating spaces where transformation can take root. [Linkedln](#)

My latest book, *Matriarch Makeover: A 30-Day Invitation*, is a reflection of my journey, bringing my experiences and insights to life.