Creating an Inclusive Classroom

Today's university classrooms are more diverse than in the past. With this diversity of students comes the need to ensure the learning environments associated with courses are inclusive and designed to support all students.

Diversity defined:

Individual differences (e.g., personality, learning styles, and life experiences) and group/social differences (e.g., race/ethnicity, class, gender, sexual orientation, country of origin, and ability as well as cultural, political, religious, or other affiliations) *(American Association of Colleges & Universities).*

Inclusion defined:

The active, intentional, and ongoing engagement with diversity–in the curriculum, in the co-curriculum, and in communities (intellectual, social, cultural, geographical) with which individuals might connect–in ways that increase awareness, content knowledge, cognitive sophistication, and empathic understanding of the complex ways individuals interact within systems and institutions *(American Association of Colleges & Universities)*.

In these more diverse classrooms there is need to acknowledge and accept students with perspectives other than our own, to diversify our syllabi, to be more aware of classroom dynamics, and to pay more attention to how our students are experiencing the learning process. Our collective ability to respond to, and be enriched by, these challenges will determine the success of both our students and our institution.

Through professional development programs, consultations, and resources, CELT supports faculty in creating learning environments where the social identities and diverse backgrounds of all students may thrive.

The following are selected resources that support creating an inclusive learning environment:

Creating an Inclusive Learning Environment (http://www.celt.iastate.edu/teaching/creating-an-inclusive-classroom/creating-an-inclusive-learning-environment)

Facilitating Critical Dialogues (http://www.celt.iastate.edu/teaching/creating-an-inclusive-classroom/facilitating-critical-dialogues)

Universal Design for Learning Overview (http://www.celt.iastate.edu/teaching/effective-teaching-practices/universal-design-for-learning-overview)

Building Inclusive Classrooms (https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL7NFC9oBYLYVpLAELQqA4Mqm4JTARvt65) (CELT YouTube Playlist)

Diversity Resources at ISU (http://www.celt.iastate.edu/teaching/creating-an-inclusive-classroom/diversity-resources-at-iowa-state-university)

Additional Information:

Making Excellence Inclusive (https://www.aacu.org/making-excellence-inclusive) (American Association of Colleges & Universities)

Inclusive Teaching Resources and Strategies (http://www.crlt.umich.edu/multicultural-teaching/inclusive-teaching-strategies) (University of Michigan)

Teaching in Racially Diverse College Classrooms (http://bokcenter.harvard.edu/teaching-racially-diverse-college-classrooms) (Harvard University)

Diversity Issues for the Instructor: Identifying Your Own Attitudes (http://www.crlt.umich.edu/gsis/p3_2) (University of Michigan)

Facilitating Challenging Conversations in Your Classes (http://www.crlt.umich.edu/node/78422) (University of Michigan)

Resources for Leveraging Diversity in the Classroom (http://mep.berkeley.edu/classroom) (University of California, Berkeley)

Diversity and Inclusion Webinars on Teaching (https://www.wepan.org/?page=PDWebinars) (Women in Engineering ProActive Network)

Back to Top

Continue on

Effective Teaching Practices (http://www.celt.iastate.edu/teaching/effective-teaching-practices)

Teaching

(http://www.celt.iastate.edu/teaching)

Creating an Inclusive Classroom (http://www.celt.iastate.edu/teaching/creating-an-inclusive-classroom)

Effective Teaching Practices (http://www.celt.iastate.edu/teaching/effective-teaching-practices)

Teaching Format (http://www.celt.iastate.edu/teaching/teaching-format)

Facilitating Learning with Technology (http://www.celt.iastate.edu/teaching/facilitating-learning-with-technology)

Blackboard Best Practices (http://www.celt.iastate.edu/teaching/blackboard-best-practices)

Preparing To Teach (http://www.celt.iastate.edu/teaching/preparing-to-teach)

Assessment and Evaluation (http://www.celt.iastate.edu/teaching/assessment-and-evaluation)

Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching

Copyright © 1995-2016, Iowa State University of Science and Technology. All rights reserved.

Contact CELT

Email us (mailto:celt@iastate.edu)

Follow us on Twitter (https://twitter.com/isucelt)

Facebook (https://www.facebook.com/IowaStateCELT/)

YouTube (http://youtube.com/isucelt/)