

Community Standards

For you. For me. For us. For the hard, messy, fun work of learning.

Be respectful.

Respect and courtesy are expected at all times. We will be discussing and reading about sensitive, personal, and, sometimes, controversial topics and you are expected to contribute to the safe and open environment that this type of discussion mandates. Respectful dissent is always encouraged, but rudeness is unnecessary. I am particularly opposed to sexist, racist, homophobic, transphobic, ableist, and other marginalizing language and expressions, which contribute directly to unsafe learning spaces. These types of language, expression, and/or sentiments are not welcome in this classroom. If you experience or observe any hostile treatment on the basis of identity you can talk to me or the [CCC Multicultural Center](#) for support.

My intent is to ensure that the materials and activities in this class are respectful of diversity (race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, ability, age, socioeconomic status, etc.). I appreciate any feedback or suggestions on how I can more fully live up to this intent and continue to improve this course to make it more equitable and inclusive.

Be honest.

Violations of academic integrity and academic honesty are taken very seriously and can result in very serious consequences. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to plagiarism, buying and selling of course assignments and research papers, performing academic assignments by other persons, unauthorized disclosure and receipt of academic information, forging of signatures or false representation, and such other practices commonly understood to be academically dishonest.

If you have any questions about academic dishonesty (especially around the proper use of citations) please come see me. This is an issue that is taken very seriously in higher education and I am happy to be a resource for you to better understand your responsibilities as a member of an academic community.

Be prepared.

You are expected to come to class with all readings done and discussion questions/comments prepared. My classrooms are based on democratic and collective learning, which takes place on both group and individual levels. Coming to class prepared is the only way to ensure that you are contributing and gaining knowledge. Lack of preparedness will have a direct impact on your success in this program.

Be present.

“Attendance” is a crucial part of our collective learning experience. This looks different for an entirely online class than for a traditional in person lecture. For this class, being present means really showing up for the work and discussion. Invest the needed time in thoughtful dialogue with your peers and instructor. Remember, you most likely will only get out of class as much as you put in. Your peers also have valuable lessons to learn from your experience and perspective, and you from theirs.

Be discreet.

You, your colleagues and your instructor may be revealing personal and sensitive information, details and experiences in our class. I ask that you keep this information inside of our group, that it not be used as fodder for gossip or conversational currency outside of our classroom, and that you respect our open and supportive learning environment by practicing discretion with this information. Conversely, I ask that we are all appropriate and relevant in our personal disclosures.

Be curious.

Ask many questions in many different ways. Seek information and marinate in it. I encourage you to say "I don't know" especially when it is followed by, "but I want to," or, "yet," or, "and I will find out," or "does anyone else know?" I want us to create space for curiosity, mistakes, and big and little wins that are hard fought. Start with questions, especially when things are hard.