

Supporting Queer-Friendly, Gender-Inclusive Classrooms

The March 5 meeting of the Spring 2019 Reading & Discussion Series:
Cultivating Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in Our Classrooms

In this discussion, we will consider how we create classrooms that are inclusive of a wide range of gender identities and sexualities. Drawing on examples shared by SU students, we will discuss handling challenging moments in the classroom. We will consider options for navigating pronouns and effective practices for the syllabus, first day of class, and classroom discussions.

RESOURCES

Training:

- Attend a [Lavendar Spaces training](#) - contact Teri Johnson in the Office of Diversity Education
- *Coming soon?* A committee is working on creating processes for legal and preferred name and gender changes in university systems. Look for more information soon about how best to use new systems.

Articles (* starred items are good places to start if you don't have much time)

- *Harbin, Brielle. 2016. "[Teaching beyond the Gender Binary in the University Classroom](#)." *Vanderbilt Center for Teaching*.
- *Russek, Sam. 2018. "[Students Give First-hand Accounts of Homophobia on Campus](#)." *The Megaphone*.
- *Schmalz, Julie. "[Ask Me': What LGBTQ Students Want Their Professors to Know](#)." *Chronicle of Higher Education*
- Byron, Reginald A., Maria R. Lowe, Brianna Billingsley, and Nathan Tuttle. 2017. "[Performativity Double Standards and the Sexual Orientation Climate at a Southern Liberal Arts University](#)." *Journal of Homosexuality* 64 (5): 671-696.
- [Confronting Trans Antagonism in the Academy: A Digital Tool Kit](#)
- Considering the pros and cons of pronoun go-rounds:
 - [We Still Need Pronoun Go-Rounds](#)
 - vs. [The Performance of Transgender Inclusion](#)

Other CTLS [Guides](#)

- "[Creating an Inclusive Classroom Climate](#)"
- "[Approaching Difficult Dialogues in the Classroom](#)"
- Also - gathering "[Mid-Semester Feedback](#)" from students can also be useful at any point in the semester for taking the pulse and hearing how your students are experiencing the course.

Books

The CTLS library has some helpful books that can be checked out. Several address some of the topics we discussed today:

- Z Nicolazzo, [Trans* in College: Transgender Students' Strategies for Navigating Campus Life and the Institutional Politics of Inclusion](#) (Stylus, 2017).

- Cia Verschelden's [*Bandwidth Recovery: Helping Students Reclaim Cognitive Resources Lost to Poverty, Racism, and Social Marginalization*](#) (Stylus 2017) overviews some of the challenges that students of color at a PWI are likely to face--including micro aggressions, stereotype threat, belongingness uncertainty, and disidentification with academic self — and outlines interventions that can help.
- Derald Wing Sue's [*Microaggressions in Everyday Life*](#) (Wiley, 2010) explores how micro aggressions operate and affect individuals and offers guidance for combating them.
- Terrell Strayhorn's [*College Students' Sense of Belonging*](#) (Routledge, 2012) delves deeper into what we know about belonging and offers practical recommendations.