



Inclusive Pedagogy and Practices

What Is Inclusive Pedagogy?

“**Inclusive pedagogy** is a method of teaching in which instructors and classmates work together to create a supportive environment that gives each student equal access to learning. ... **Inclusive** classrooms work to ensure that both teacher and student participation promote thoughtfulness and mutual respect” (as defined by Georgetown University).

“**Inclusive** teaching **strategies** refer to any number of teaching approaches that address the needs of students with a variety of backgrounds, learning modalities, and abilities. These **strategies** contribute to an overall **inclusive** learning environment in which students feel equally valued” (from Cornell University).

“**Inclusive classrooms** are classrooms in which instructors and students work together to create and sustain an environment in which everyone feels safe, supported, and encouraged to express her or his views and concerns. In these classrooms, the content is explicitly viewed from the multiple perspectives and varied experiences of a range of groups. Content is presented in a manner that reduces all students' experiences of marginalization and, wherever possible, helps students understand that individuals' experiences, values, and perspectives influence how they construct knowledge in any field or discipline. Instructors in inclusive classrooms use a **variety of teaching methods in order to facilitate the academic achievement of all students**. Inclusive classrooms are places in which thoughtfulness, mutual respect, and academic excellence are valued and promoted” (from University of Michigan).

Features of Inclusive Teaching

- Assessing individual needs, learning preferences and goals
- Being approachable and accessible for students
- Differentiating activities to suit all abilities and needs

- Providing opportunities for group work to allow students to mix
- Providing an accessible environment to all
- Involving the students, for example by using their first name, using eye contact and ask individual questions

Examples of Inclusive Practices

- Designing and implementing [Universal Design for Learning](#) in your classroom
- Creating [digitally accessible](#) resources
- Developing and assessing [Open Educational Resources \(OER\)](#)
- Incorporating reflective narratives on faculty and student identity (addressing implicit bias, cultural-bound assumptions, diverse perspectives and life experience)
- Structuring critical and difficult conversations and discussions on controversial topics
- Applying cultural competence in the ways in which you teach
- Cultivating social and emotional well-being and belonging

[*View Inclusive Pedagogy and Practice Teaching Resources*](#)