

TEACHING RESOURCES

A RESOURCE GUIDE FOR TEACHING DURING TIMES OF CONFLICT

BUILD CLASSROOM COMMUNITY

Begin with relationship-building work upfront to have meaningful classroom discussion. When contentious topics emerge in the classroom, focus on strengthening classroom community by maintaining a space of shared dialogue. Assert that everyone may be feeling a range of emotions and share a reminder about class communication guidelines.

IUP SPARKS:
Building Community
 See this issue for resources on building community in the classroom

FREE SPEECH AND INCLUSION
 Classroom exercises and strategies

DIFFICULT DIALOGUES HANDBOOK

TEACHING STRATEGIES FOR PROCESSING CURRENT EVENTS

Head, Heart, Conscience

In this exercise, students can respond to current events from an intellectual level (head), emotional (heart), and ethical lens (conscience). This can be done in pen and paper, in a journal, or using digital tools such as [Padlet](#), [Jamboard](#), or [Mentimeter](#).

Iceberg Diagrams

Assign students resources to read and explore the conflict. Working in small groups, students can analyze what they have read by creating an iceberg diagram. The tip of the iceberg contains information about specifics of the current conflict. The much larger space under the surface contains an analysis of the factors that have contributed to the conflict.

Gallery Walk

A gallery walk activity gets students actively engaging with source materials from documents, images, or objects related to the topic. Consider a variety of sources to support an analysis of the topic.

FRAMEWORK FOR TEACHING CHALLENGING TOPICS

Dr. Judy Pace's framework for discussion provides a research-based approach for teaching challenging topics. Click to view detailed teaching strategies within each element.

 <p>Cultivate a supportive environment through community building, norms, openness to dissent, individual affirmation, and humor.</p>	 <p>Prepare thoroughly with attention to student identity and development, teaching contexts, subject matter, purposes, and methods.</p>	 <p>Think through teacher stance including pedagogical roles, positions on issues, and pros and cons of disclosing teacher views.</p>	 <p>Communicate proactively with students, parents, colleagues, and administrators about issues that will be studied.</p>
 <p>Select authentic issues and frame questions to promote student engagement and inquiry, progressing from cooler to hotter issues.</p>	 <p>Choose resources and pedagogies that challenge assumptions, include diverse voices and perspectives, and foster participation.</p>	 <p>Guide discussion with tools for analyzing sources, exchanging ideas, moving from small groups to whole group, and attending to equity.</p>	 <p>Address emotions by creating space for processing them, using de-escalation moves as needed, and developing self-awareness.</p>

IUP RESOURCES

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