

“Leveling the Playing Field”: Creating Inclusive Learning Spaces (Part 2)

Presenters:

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Tuesday, May 14

1:00-1:50PM

Wallace – Room 3440

Welcome! Please take a seat.

“Leveling the Playing Field” Creating Inclusive Learning Spaces (Part 2)

Our Goals:

- Define the **what & why** of **inclusive** pedagogy.
- Outline some essential elements of **how** to **implement** an **inclusive** pedagogy.
- Reflect on and **investigate** the **inclusiveness** of **our own teaching practices and learning spaces**.
- *Gain additional strategies and frameworks for creating inclusive learning spaces.*

How would *you* define an “inclusive” learning space?

- Please spend a minute (or two) to **think about how you might define the characteristics of an inclusive classroom/pedagogy.**
- There will be some time for you to share your thoughts with the larger group, if you'd like.

Inclusive Learning Spaces

- *Content to be determined...*

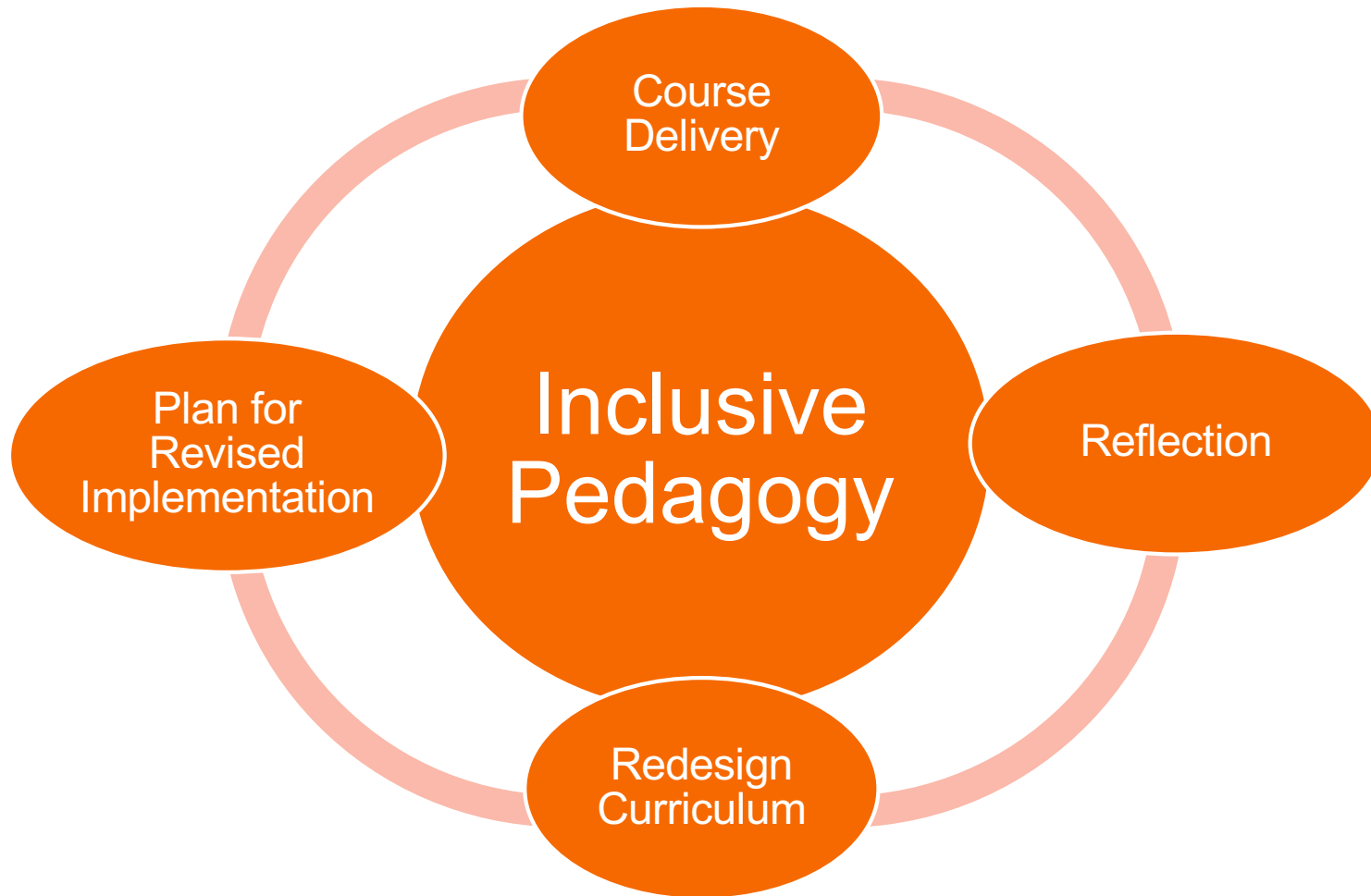
Inclusive Pedagogy: A working definition

- “Inclusive teaching involves deliberately cultivating a learning environment where **all students are treated equitably**, have **equal access to learning**, and feel valued and supported in their learning...”

Inclusive teaching also...

- “...attends to **social identities** and seeks to **change** the ways **systemic inequities** shape dynamics in **teaching-learning spaces**, **affect individuals’ experiences** of those spaces, and **influence course and curriculum design.**”

(University of Michigan – [Center for Research on Teaching & Learning](#))



Benefits of Inclusive Pedagogy

Through Inclusive Pedagogy, faculty members can:

- **Engage diversity** to create dynamic, engaging, and relevant individual and group learning experiences.

(adapted from Salazar et al., 2009)

Benefits of Inclusive Pedagogy

Through Inclusive Pedagogy, faculty members can:

- Establish an environment that **challenges each student to achieve academically at high levels**, and furthers their path to academic success.

(adapted from Salazar et al., 2009)

Benefits of Inclusive Pedagogy

Through Inclusive Pedagogy, faculty members can:

- **Constructively handle difficult moments in the classroom** when controversial material is discussed, and classroom discussions become heated.

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Benefits of Inclusive Pedagogy

Through Inclusive Pedagogy, faculty members can:

- **Co-create and foster a collegial environment** in which students feel comfortable sharing their ideas, thoughts, and questions.

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Benefits of Inclusive Pedagogy

Through Inclusive Pedagogy, faculty members can:

- **Support the success of all students** regardless of background and ability.

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Benefits of Inclusive Pedagogy

Through Inclusive Pedagogy, faculty members can:

- **Engage diversity** to create dynamic, engaging, and relevant individual and group learning experiences.
- Establish an environment that **challenges each student to achieve academically at high levels**, and furthers their path to academic success.
- **Constructively handle difficult moments in the classroom** when controversial material is discussed, and classroom discussions become heated.
- **Co-create and foster a collegial environment** in which students feel comfortable sharing their ideas, thoughts, and questions.
- **Support the success of all students** regardless of background and ability.

(adapted from Salazar et al., 2009)

Critical
Engagement
of Difference

Structured
Interactions

Academic
Belonging

Transparency

Flexibility

Principles of Inclusive Pedagogy

Critical Engagement of Difference

Acknowledge students' different identities and experiences; leverage student diversity as an asset for learning.

Structured Interactions

Develop protocols or processes that support equitable access and contributions to interactive elements of the learning environment and disrupt patterns that reinforce systemic inequities.

Academic Belonging

Cultivate students' sense of connection and ability to see themselves as active members in the discipline or a community of scholars.

Transparency

Clearly communicate with students about expectations and norms; explain purpose, task, and criteria for learning activities.

Flexibility

Respond and adapt to students' changing and diverse circumstances; engage empathetically with student needs, both emerging and persistent; balance intentional design and commitment to providing accommodations.

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Link to [U of Michigan's CRTL website](#)

Essential Elements of Inclusive Courses

- Are the learning experiences accessible for all students?
- Do the course policies take into account the different challenges students may encounter?
- Does the course content provide diverse perspectives, including those that are often marginalized?
- Are the assessments designed for improvement?
- Do students have the opportunity to demonstrate learning in more than one way?

Reflection Exercise

Investigating Our
Own Classroom
Environments &
Pedagogical Choices

Please spend the next few minutes (3-5) to reflect on your own pedagogy.

- How have you **successfully implemented** an inclusive pedagogy?
- What are the **biggest difficulties** in maintaining an inclusive learning environment?

Now, discuss your reflections with the people at your table and be ready to share the group's major takeaways with all workshop participants.

Successes

Difficulties

Additional Resources

- **Cornell University's Center for Teaching Innovation**
<https://teaching.cornell.edu/resource/inclusive-teaching>
- **Dartmouth Center for the Advancement of Learning**
<https://dcal.dartmouth.edu/resources/teaching-methods/inclusive-teaching>
- **DePaul University's Teaching Commons**
<https://resources.depaul.edu/teaching-commons/teaching-guides/inclusive-teaching/Pages/default.aspx>
- **New York University**
<https://www.nyu.edu/life/global-inclusion-and-diversity/learning-and-development/toolkits/faculty-digital-inclusion/inclusive-curriculum-design.html>
- **UC Berkeley Center for Teaching & Learning**
<https://teaching.berkeley.edu/teaching-guides/advancing-equity-and-inclusion>
- **University of Michigan's Center for Research on Learning & Teaching**
<https://crlt.umich.edu/multicultural-teaching/inclusive-teaching-strategies>

RIT

**Thank you for your participation.
Enjoy the symposium!**

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