The Syllabus

4 TIPS
For Creating Inclusive and Anti-Racist Classrooms

1. Understand the power of the syllabus

- Syllabi are learning tools that signal to students how learning takes place in your classroom.
- The syllabus can reinforce or demystify the "hidden curriculum." The bottom are a series of reflection questions that will also help you think more deeply about the learning environment.
- Syllabi can be used to focus on possibilities for learning and growth, not just punishments for not learning the material.
- Syllabi let students know that learning is a process of deep and critical thinking about the learning environment.
- Many students are new to college and learning how learning takes place. Many students are new to college and learning how learning takes place.

2. Be Race Conscious

- In the past, universities have served white, cisgender, heterosexual, and able-bodied, upper class students; therefore, ensuring that our syllabi and tools will provide you more specific guidance on how to create an inclusive syllabus and tools.
- Syllabi can be used to assume responsibility for teaching and discuss social and structural determinants of health throughout your courses.
- Syllabi can be used to remove academic jargon.
- Syllabi can be used to help students in their development by integrating inclusive excellence and anti-racist elements into your course.

3. Assume Responsibility

- Syllabi signal inclusion and belonging when they deconstruct cultural stereotypes to justify your reasoning.
- Syllabi let students know that learning is a process of deep and critical thinking about the learning environment.
- Syllabi can be used to understand, teach, and discuss social and structural determinants of health throughout your courses.
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4. Design the syllabus for your students

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Additional Resources

- Faculty Center for Ignatian Pedagogy- Decolonizing Your Syllabus
- Loyola University Chicago Reporting Obligation and Disability Language
- Marcella Niehoff School of Nursing Inclusive Excellence Statements
- Inclusion by design: Survey your syllabus and course design