

Resources for Teaching in Tumultuous Times

As teachers, we cannot control all aspects of the learning environment. Sometimes local, national, and international events send shock waves through our communities that most of us cannot ignore and that all of us--students, faculty, and staff--experience in different ways. Although we can never predict how to respond in such moments, here are a handful of resources that might help with framing conversations both in and outside of the classroom.

[Discussing Traumatic Events](#) from UC Berkeley

- Guidelines on how to prepare for and structure a discussion, if you should choose to do so

[Teaching and Learning in a Tense Election Season](#) from the University of Michigan

- Reflective questions about your discipline's possible approaches to discussing the election
- Ways to practice democratic skills in the classroom
- Consideration of which students and instructors may be disproportionately affected by the rhetoric of this election

Video by [Brené Brown on Empathy](#)

- 3-minute video on distinction between empathy and sympathy
- Strategies about how to listen to and connect with someone who is suffering

[How to Support Students of Color](#) by Karen Kelsky

- Advice from a white professor to other white professors about how to support students of color in your classroom

[Calling In: A Quick Guide on When and How](#) by Sian Ferguson

- Distinction between calling out and calling in as ways to get someone to stop an oppressive behavior
- Calling in attempts to do this in the most loving, self-respecting way possible

[The Faculty Focus Special Report on Diversity and Inclusion in the College Classroom](#)

- "Managing Hot Moments in the Classroom: Concrete Strategies for Cooling Down Tension" (p. 4)
- "Seven Bricks to Lay the Foundation for Productive Difficult Dialogues" (p. 6)

- "Overcoming Racial Tension: Using Student Voices to Create Safe Spaces in the Classroom" (p.9)
- "Managing Microaggressions in the College Classroom" (p. 10).

[Responding to Everyday Bigotry](#) from Southern Poverty Law Center

- Strategies for responding to bigotry at work, home, in public, and in yourself

[Responding to Microaggressions with Microresistance: A Framework for Consideration](#)

by Cynthia Ganote, Floyd Cheung, and Tasha Souza (pp. 3-7)

- Theory of how microresistance can be an effective response to microaggression

[Self-Care Resources for Days When the World Is Terrible](#) compiled by Miriam Zoila

Pérez

- Ideas for how to maintain health, sanity, and integrity
- Includes resources for everyone but especially for people of color and LGBTQ individuals

[Statement on Academic Freedom](#) from the American Association of University

Professors

- Principles like "Teachers are entitled to freedom in the classroom in discussing their subject, but they should be careful not to introduce into their teaching controversial matter which has no relation to their subject."
- FAQs about academic freedom can be found [here](#).