

## Positive Class Management: Engaging All Students in Your Learning Environment

A summary of strategies for **before class** (orange), **during class** (purple), and **after class** (blue).

<b>1. Communicate Expectations &amp; Set the Tone in the Syllabus</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) <b>Be Transparent:</b> describe participation expectations, grading rubrics, weekly schedules and deadlines</li> <li>(b) <b>Connect Participation to Personal Benefit:</b> How are students developing skills for the workplace?</li> <li>(c) <b>Encourage Student Success Strategies:</b> Use a list of “Do this” rather than a list of “Don’t ...”</li> <li>(d) <b>Add OTEI Statements About Resources:</b> See Syllabus Templates</li> </ul>
<b>2. Create Classroom Norms with Students</b>	<p>Some options include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) <b>Mutual Expectation Agreements:</b> Formal bi-directional agreement of responsibilities of you and the students</li> <li>(b) <b>Guideposts:</b> A less formal short phrase and accompanying description</li> <li>(c) <b>Collaborate with Students:</b> Use a collaborative note document or discussions board to build norms together</li> </ul>
<b>3. Learn &amp; Respect Student Identities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) <b>Use Student Names</b></li> <li>(b) <b>Reflect About Identities:</b> Consider the identities and experiences you and your students bring to class</li> </ul>
<b>4. Get to Know Each Other</b>	<p>Consider creating:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) <b>Welcome Page</b> in Canvas</li> <li>(b) <b>About Us</b> editable slide deck</li> <li>(c) <b>Short Introduction Video</b> for your class and you</li> </ul>
<b>5. Invite Multiple Hands to Hear Multiple Voices</b>	<p>Use by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Posing the question or prompt to the class</li> <li>(2) Identifying the number of volunteers you are waiting for (e.g., 2, 5, 7)</li> <li>(3) Wait until you have all the volunteers</li> <li>(4) Hear them one by one</li> </ul> <p><i>Encourage those who haven’t shared yet to volunteer!</i></p>
<b>6. Incorporate Non-Oral Participation</b>	<p>Consider adding opportunities for students to showcase understanding by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Drawing</li> <li>(b) Writing</li> <li>(c) Acting Out or Charades</li> <li>(d) Voting or Polling</li> <li>(e) Mapping or making</li> </ul> <p><i>Non-oral participation allows for creativity and comfort in the classroom.</i></p>

# OTEI

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## 7. Be Honest & Use Resources

Students will inevitably ask you a question you don't know the answer to, so use your resources (peers, supervisors, Google) and be honest that you don't know the answer yet but will share when you do!

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## 8. Heated Moment? Try Minute Reflections

- (1) Acknowledge the tensions
  - (2) Pause
  - (3) Invite everyone to silently write out the emotions for 1 minute (or longer)
  - (4) Refer back to expectations
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## 9. Ask for Feedback

- Check in to see how things are going in class!
- (a) From Students: Anonymous feedback through a survey
  - (b) From a Trusted Colleague: Peer observation of teaching
  - (c) From OTEI: A consultation
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## References

- Sathy, V., & Hogan, K. A. (2022). Inclusive teaching: Strategies for promoting equity in the college classroom. West Virginia University Press.
- Tanner, K.D. (2013). Structure matters: Twenty-one teaching strategies to promote student engagement and cultivate classroom equity. *CBE life sciences education*, 12(3), 322 – 331.
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