



Welcome to UVM!

We're glad you're joining this
community of teacher-scholars.



Welcoming Students and Finding Your Colleagues: Starting the Semester with Connection

Presented by

Daisy Benson, UVM Libraries (she/her)

Susanmarie Harrington, Writing in the Disciplines | Center for Teaching & Learning (she/her)

Susan Munkres, Office of Community Engaged Learning (she/her)



Today's session

- An inclusive first day of class
 - Icebreakers
 - Welcoming syllabus
 - Connection tools
- Introduction to campus resources for teaching

We hope you'll
leave with:

- A few immediately useful tips
- Awareness of resources for your teaching
- The beginning of your own teaching network



Small Steps for Inclusive Teaching: Icebreakers

Why? Low-prep activities set a welcoming tone, connect you and the students, and create a sense of belonging

Early on, icebreakers are useful for

- Introductions
- Revealing interests or questions
- Syllabus conversations

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If you use icebreakers, what's your favorite?
If you don't use icebreakers, what questions or concerns do you have?





Small Steps: A Welcoming Syllabus

Why? The syllabus has documented effects on students' perception of belonging and engagement.

1. Focus on what students will learn (rather than listing content)
2. Explain "why take this course?" or "why should you care about X?"
3. Humanize yourself
4. Use a warm tone
5. Signal that equity matters
6. Share supports + resources for students to communicate attention + care (we'll share language you can use)

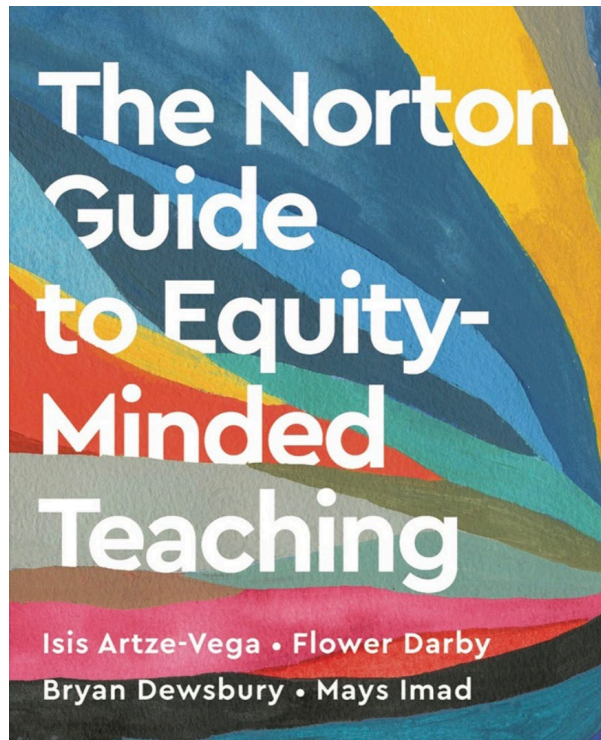


Small Steps: Connecting Early

Why? Showing that you care about students' success and learning increases engagement and sense of belonging, which lead to more equitable outcomes.

- Learn more about your students individually and collectively, via small assignments, surveys, or activities
- Share your own connection to the course/field
- Get students to form some connections/recognition

Read on your own, or
with colleagues in the CTL's Fall Reading Group!





Center for Teaching and Learning

- We help with instructional technology, pedagogy, active learning, Universal Design for Learning, inclusive pedagogy and more...
- Join us for workshops or personalized consultations!
 - Email ctl@uvm.edu
 - See the CTL/WID events calendar (www.uvm.edu/ctl/events)

Connect with us at the resource fair on Tuesday!



UVM Libraries

- We can help you plan assignments; visit your class to work with your students; and more.
- Contact us to schedule workshops or research consultations!
 - Find your subject librarian
(library.uvm.edu/about/staff/specialist)
 - No librarian for your subject? Contact Daisy Benson about teaching issues & course support



Office of Community-Engaged Learning (CELO)

- Specialized office supporting faculty who incorporate work with community partners into their courses (service-learning)
- Reach out for workshops, consultation and resources
 - Email celo@uvm.edu
 - See www.uvm.edu/celo for upcoming events + opportunities

Connect with us at the resource fair on Tuesday!



Writing in the Disciplines

- We support
 - Instructors as writing teachers (even if you don't think you teach writing!)
 - Instructors as writers
- Join us for workshops, writing groups, or personalized consultations!
 - Email wid@uvm.edu
 - See the CTL/WID events calendar (www.uvm.edu/ctl/events)

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We're here for you!

- Connect with us at the resource fair on Tuesday!
- Join us for workshops or personalized consultations!
 - Email ctl@uvm.edu or wid@uvm.edu or celo@uvm.edu
 - See the CTL/WID events calendar (www.uvm.edu/ctl/events) and CELO's upcoming events (www.uvm.edu/celo)
 - Find your subject librarian (library.uvm.edu/about/staff/specialist)