INFUSING THE SEVEN EQUITY PRECEPTS INTO YOUR CLASSROOM

Matt Lawrence, Ph.D.
Student Equity Coordinator
Professor of Philosophy
College was originally created \textit{for} a particular sort of student and has been replicated over and over again, largely \textit{by} that same type of student. College professors are typically students that the system served well.
The needs of our students are different...
Let’s design our courses to help OUR students succeed.

AWAKEN  WELCOME  PARTNER  REPRESENT  EMPOWER  VALIDATE  DEMYSTIFY
• Take responsibility for the equitable success of your students.
• Realize that every attitude, norm, and policy embodied in your syllabus and teaching can impact student success.
• Look for disproportionate impact in your policies, grading structures, course content and assignments.
• Examine the language and tone used throughout your syllabus. Ensure that it is positive and encouraging.
• Be mindful of student insecurities and fear.
• Create a supportive and inclusive classroom discussion environment.
• Let students know that you are there for them, and clarify how they can seek your help.
• Examine norms and attitudes around late work, second drafts, etc.
• Discover student’s educational goals and find ways to support them beyond the classroom.
• Look for ways to make your course content better represent the diversity of our student body.
• Use more representative and inclusive images and examples throughout your syllabus and your teaching.
• Show that you value the diverse perspectives of your students.
EMPOWER

• Examine your curriculum and assignments to maximize engagement and empowerment of your students.
• Use students’ culture and life experiences as assets.
• Create a classroom discussion environment in which everyone feels empowered to participate.
• Look for ways to involve your students in campus and community events.
Validate

• Ensure that your syllabus conveys your belief that every student can be successful in your class.
• Maintain a growth-mindset about your students, and teach them about the importance of developing a growth mindset.
• Avoid punitive language that suggests a lack of trust and low expectations of your students.
Demystify classroom expectations, and assignment expectations.
• Light the way to success by modeling and scaffolding your assignments.
• Inform your students about campus resources such as tutoring centers, computer labs, disabled students services, psychological counseling, etc.
• Use a clear and straightforward grading scheme and post your grades on Canvas.
Have a great year at LBCC!

Matt Lawrence, Ph.D.
Professor of Philosophy
Student Equity Coordinator
mlawrence@lbcc.edu