

Black Student Success Session



Human Side-Experiences that lead to success with Black students

Building positive relationships. Focusing on strengths

Building relationships throughout the term

Intervention Program for children with special needs allowed me to see family dynamics and made me aware of environmental circumstances that may affect the overall development of the child. I used the same

Taught 2 years at an "at risk" middle school (low-socioeconomic status).

I was discriminated against in my school years. I am immediately protective of Black students because of this.

Participated in organized sports (football in HS) which was very ethnically diverse

Played sports in HS

I'm an immigrant, I know some of the struggles we face as a minority. Just try to connect with all my students and see potential on them.

Lived in a black neighborhood.

Provide feedback for assignments and discussion responses

Family Experience: Family not only taught, but modeled respect and care for others.

Provide feedback for assignments and discussion responses

Background: Coming from a lower income, working class family, raised in a single parent household, but with a very large extended family. Also a first-generation college student.

My background in coaching high school and college basketball has given me insights through various relationships with student-athletes.

Taught 5 years at a Performing Arts high school with a relatively high black population.

I cannot stand injustice!

Positive and effective communication

Encourage students to be open to new perspectives

Build their confidence

I always treat my students equally and give them an idea that they are not just seeking for AA/AS degrees, they need to go and finish at least a bachelor's degree and master's degree.

Previous background in K-12 working predominantly with Hispanic and Black students

I was partially raised by a Black Grandmother who taught me how to approach uncomfortable conversations where ethnicity plays a role

I see my role as a CC educator as providing a safe place of opportunities for all, but even more so for those who are wronged by institutions and society.

I am aware of the power and responsibility I hold as college faculty. No need to apologize for standing strong for what is needs to be changed in our institutions.

Provide resources so students have every opportunity to succeed

Adjust my teaching style to accommodate every type of learner

I love to guide them on how to be successful with the course.

Equity issues are a big part of many doctoral classes in my current studies.

CORA trainings helped me confirm personal feelings and verbalize them.

CORA training

Faith background helped me to focus on value of the individual

I have "adopted" several students over the years (providing guidance for life stuff) and they tell others they can trust me

Pedagogy- What happened in the classroom

Asking for feedback from students about coursework

Give detailed and timely feedback on assignments

Drop some low assignment scores

Use personal stories

Value personal situations (the outside world) when students express difficulty with deadlines and assignments. That a student would even express they need additional time is a victory for me!

Allow, respect and welcome the way students express themselves naturally. I do not want my Black students to feel they need to minimize their culture and cultural expression in any way to 'fit in'.

Definitely open to late work, without penalty

Flexibility: Very open to allowing late work and make-up exams

I let them make up whatever they missed from the class.

Very Responsive to email, and Make sure to validate student questions and concerns

Respond to the students messages as quickly as possible

Prioritize responding to student email.

Provide constructive feedback on all assignments and discussion responses

Share some of my story with them.

Provide flexibility to ALL students so they have an opportunity to succeed

with all students, group activities, being accessible to them (office hours), messages via Canvas, using Pronto, sending reminders via announcements. I provide feedback on assignments. I use personal experiences

Flexibility; allowing late work; lots of review of concepts; don't strictly adhere to syllabus timelines if students are not ready to move on

My classroom is a JUDGE FREE zone

Stop students to talk to them if I see they are struggling in class or have missed class.

I let them not to buy the book since the book are too expensive, I let them take picture of the assign homework.

Intentionally protective and welcoming: I want students to feel immediately that they own their spot in our class.

Focus on ways students can use the information they learn to positively impact their lives

Be very attentive to how other students treat and work with Black students in my classroom.

CORA Training made me rethink the videos and readings I give to the class. I make it a point to incorporate a diverse voice. I consciously seek out videos and documentaries with African American professors/writers

I am not a fan of "deficit" mindsets. We all come into the classroom with some super power and I try to highlight it and show how it can be applied. It helps that I have a disability

In the final weeks of class, I reach out to failing/low percentage students to develop a plan for them to catch up enough to pass.

I am an intrusive Teacher. I will get into their personal lives and nag them until they do what I think leads to success

Personally going after those with missed assignments, offering to help and to give more time.

I let them use their cellphone to take pic of the lectures from the board.

Connect concepts to practice wherever possible.

Flexibility

I make sure to do something super embarrassing early on so that everyone can give me grace and then let grace be given in return

I also think it is really important to make sure that the material covers the history of more than white men (which was the story I was told when I started out)

Materials, Documents, Course Website

consistency in structure of class ie: Saturday due dates for all assignments

The Griot Assignment helps to build relationships with students.

CHECKLISTS!

Weekly schedule in syllabus; all assignment dates in some courses.

I sometimes buy books or access codes for students. Don't tell anyone :)

In weekly announcements I embed assignment links for easier access to the assignment

Organized modules with the same due date and the same organization each week is huge.

I gave them multiple resources, so they work with their assignments.

I create a calendar with due dates for every assignment and give it to the students on day 1

Students have access to free books, videos, publications and more in all courses.

Allow them to be creative wherever possible.

I don't require the latest edition of the textbook so students don't have to pay so much for books

I provide resources at the bottom of every assignment that includes video clips, articles, and more.

Use OER resources

Spanish words in the Caribbean areas that have African roots, but are part of the Spanish lexicon. I share a lot about those. Also mention the one Spanish-speaking African country, a surprise for many

I teach Spanish in CA: stereotyped all around! I make a point of using images, texts, examples where students can see that a large number of Spanish speakers are Black (which also relates to my personal story).

Classroom set of textbooks for Music Theory

use various perspectives on topics

Constantly trying to negotiate lower textbook prices.

I build my entire class in Canvas so that it does not require students to go to a third-party website to do their work. This typically makes it less expensive

I try to provide most all materials outside of the textbooks

Use online resources for GUI 47, 48, and 46.

Reminders of upcoming assignments via announcements. I encourage to students to message me via Pronto. Use OER textbooks/low-cost textbooks. I use videos to enhance the course materials.

Assignments & Assessments- quizzes, papers, projects, tests, and exams

Tests aren't the most heavily weighted

Celebrate errors! Errors are the best way to clarify the learning process.

Meaningful extra credit: what I really need students to know (conjugations, rules, etc...) is set as extra-credit. A win win situation!

All assignments are turned in online even in an on-ground class

I set online homework assignments with multiple attempts.

Embed kindness in test instructions and provide examples.

In-class assignments so I can do spot checks

I always give extra credit for the homework who can submit homework one meeting early before the test date.

I include an essay portion on exams that allows students to showcase what they have learned in a given area.

include a rubric for all assignments and discussions

Balance in grading categories so everything isn't high-pressure

Many different assignment opportunities so there are many options and nothing is weighted on one or two major assignment

Late policy for assignments with a decrease in the overall assignment grade.

Music

Require students to create original work to demonstrate their understanding of course information

Group projects (they work in these assignments during class), quizzes are not timed (my quizzes are open three days prior to due date).

Clearly share grading rubrics ahead of time so students know how they will be evaluated.

an error is an opportunity to learn

I provide specific video feedback for all assignments and discussions

Create video tutorials for each assignment

including video and voice feedback allows for a more personal touch

Celebrate progress.

use the* message students who* feature in the grading area to remind students to complete work and to provide positive feedback to students who are doing well

Using Kahoot to review.

I use Kahoot it! or other online games to make it fun for the students. They get competitive since they get an extra point if they get first place.