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Breaking down barriers in the classroom

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Recommended Citation

Bolt, Alicia M.. "Breaking down barriers in the classroom." (2023). https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/hsc_ed_day/153

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Breaking down barriers in the classroom

Dr. Alicia Bolt

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February 3rd, 2023

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Objectives for Today's Talk:

- Discuss novel ways to break down faculty-student barriers in the classroom.
- Discuss novel ways to break down learning barriers in the classroom.
- Discuss novel ways learners in the audience have broken down barriers in the classroom.

STUDENT SUCCESS



Fun Facts about Dr. Bolt

- I have lived in 3 out of the 4 states part of the four corners of the Southwest – Dr. Thompson says that makes me a true Southwesterner!!!!
- I lived in Russia for 2 years after graduating with my undergrad. I also lived in Montreal Quebec for 5 years during my postdoctoral training. I do speak a little bit of Russian and French!
- My husband and I have an urban “farm” in downtown ABQ
- I am an environmental toxicologist – studying how exposure to toxic metals – Tungsten, Uranium, and Arsenic leads to toxicity and disease by altering the immune system.



Pronouns

- Use my own pronouns – puts them on initial slides. This helps create a safe space for learners who have affirmed pronouns.



Dr. Kelsea Aragon – UNM COP, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Administrative Sciences

Degenderizing Dress Code Requirements

Lab Dress Code:

Business casual attire for Lab:

- wrinkle-free and collared shirts, blouses, sweaters, cardigans
- dress pants
- khaki pants
- skirts or dresses (at or below the knee)
- close toed shoes (no sandals)

Looking polished, professional and comfortable:

- clothes should be fitted properly, not too tight not too baggy
- shirts should be tucked for shirts meant to be worn tucked
- pants should be belted when wearing shirts meant to be tucked
- jeans or shorts are NOT acceptable
- jeggings or leggings worn as pants NOT acceptable

Avoid:

- blingy, shiny, or sequined material
- anything that shows off your cleavage, belly or back
- large jewelry
- unkempt athletic shoes
- wedges and heels > 2.5 inches
- “club” attire

UNM Collage of Pharmacy - Dr.
Krista Salazar – UNM COP DEAI
Committee

Making Learning Content Relevant

- Explain how, what the material(s) that will be taught, will apply to the students jobs, careers, and lives.
- Tell personal stories/examples often to capture attention and make memorable connections for students.

Dr. Amy Bachyrycz – UNM COP, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Administrative Sciences

Resources

- P1 Tutors – 1:1 and Group Tutoring Sessions
 - First Name Last Name - FirstLast@salud.unm.edu
 - First Name Last Name- FirstLast@salud.unm.edu
- First Name Last Name – Learning Specialist – FirstLast@salud.unm.edu
- Peers
- I'm available! ambolt@salud.unm.edu

The Importance of Office Hours



Holding Exam Reviews

- In a classroom (student space), provide lecture capture
- Give students questions to work on with various levels of difficulty
- Most meaningful when you let the students decide which problems they want to go over – often spurs good discussion with follow up questions
- Can use iclickers to poll
- Encourage students to discuss questions, ask for volunteers to explain
- Get a good balance of students since this appeals to broader audience than one group
- Keep it casual, encourage everyone to come and go as they like/need
- Allows student to come as they are – no expectations and no judgement or formal assessment
- Doesn't need to be a true review –you've already lectured - make the students work through questions and ask questions

Teaching to Different Types of Learners

Videos
Reading
Lecture notes
Images
Active Learning

Which Do You Communicate More In?



VISUAL

"I see what you mean."



KINESTHETIC

"It feels to me like..."



AUDITORY

"I hear what you're saying."

Active Learning Ideas – Engage Learners

- Discussion Groups
- Use as many Interactive Hands on Assignments, case based scenario, team discussion, group debate, etc. as frequently as possible to capture attention and better invest the student in the material. Dr. Amy Bachyrycz
- Iclicker Questions – Gauge how much the learners already know about a topic before lecturing on it. Dr. Linda Felton, UNM COP, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences

Incorporating Diversity into Lectures

- Use images of people of color in dermatology lectures

Dr. Kelsea Aragon – UNM COP, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Administrative Sciences



Psoriasis on light skin and dark skin: In light skin, psoriasis tends to be red or pink (left). In dark skin, psoriasis often looks violet (right).

Closing Thoughts

- Be intentional
- Think outside of the box about how to engage students in the classroom and break down barriers
- Be responsive to feedback

SHARE Your IDEAS

