Facilitated Discussion

2312 - Aiming for Equity in Curricular Alignment Across Transfer in the Urban Academy
Diversity and Inclusion, Credits and Degree Pathways

A community college and a 4-year college have formed a transfer partnership in Urban Studies called the Urban Academy. In this presentation we will share early lessons from the Urban Academy's Curricular Excavation Project, funded by the Way Forward, Bringing Theory to Practice grant which has employed Culturally Responsive Pedagogy (CRP) professional development to improve the success of community college students as they move through transfer toward a baccalaureate degree.

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CUNY Urban Academy Curricular Excavation Project

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About Us:

• Guttman Community College
• The School of Labor and Urban Studies
• The Urban Academy
• The Way Forward Grant
The Why:
The Coronavirus Pandemic and the racial and social justice uprising of in 2020 had taken a devastating and disproportionate toll on our students and their communities. UA leadership, faculty, and staff were propelled to move from grief to action. The persistent, pervasive demand for dismantling the systemic inequities had a renewed sense of urgency.
CUNY Curricular Excavation Project

How it Worked:

We created The CUNY Curricular Excavation Project which used Culturally Responsive Pedagogy (CRP) as a tool to improve the success of community college students as they move through transfer toward a baccalaureate degree.
Excavation Session Breakdown

• Part I - CRP overview and curricular revision using backwards design. Follow up assignments for completing revision.

• Part I – Exploring CRP and mindfulness in transfer contexts with Yolanda Sealy-Ruiz and Angel Acosta.
CRP Framework

• Affirm that cultural traditions have ways of knowing.
• Cross-cultural exchange from student-student
• Student as knowledge holder – professor as facilitator
• Scaffolded assignment with clear expectations at each step
• Learning within the context of culture
• Students research aspects of the topic in their community
• Students share their work with their family/community using culturally appropriate language
Break Out
Putting the Pieces Together

What is your sense of culturally responsive transfer in your institution?
Do you have CRP efforts on your campus in the curriculum? What have they looked like? What suggestions can you share?
Resources

Books
Advancing Racial Literacies in Teacher Education: Activism for Equity in Digital Spaces. Detra Price-Dennis and Yolanda Sealey-Ruiz Teachers College Press 2021

Article Culturally Responsive Teaching Knowledge and Practices of Online Faculty Heitner, Keri L.; Jennings, Miranda Online Learning, v20 n4 p54-78 Dec 2016

New York State Department of Education Report: Culturally Responsive Sustaining Educational Framework

Culturally Responsive-Sustaining Education Framework (nysed.gov)


• Fuller, K. & Torres-Rivera, C. (2021) A Culturally Responsive Curricular Revision to Improve Engagement and Learning in an Undergraduate Microbiology Lab Course. Frontiers in Microbiology.

• Hernandez, Cecilia M.; Morales, Amanda; and Shroyer, Gail, "The development of a model of culturally responsive science and mathematics teaching" (2013). Faculty Publications: Department of Teaching, Learning and Teacher Education. 279. https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/teachlearnfacpub/279


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