

Resources for Creating Equitable and Inclusive Learning Environments

As you prepare for your classes and the in-person return for your students, the following resources will help you create equitable and inclusive learning environments for *all* of your students so that they can thrive and learn.

- **Guidance on [Teaching During Turbulent Times](#)**: This document provides a set of strategies to help faculty recognize and acknowledge the impact that the pandemic and social upheaval have had on our students, no matter the course context or discipline.
- **Northwestern [Inclusive Teaching Principles \(pdf\)](#)** offers a set of strategies designed to help instructors reflect on their own backgrounds, identities and positionality, and those of their students, and how these factors can impact how they teach and how students learn. It also offers practical strategies and examples for creating inclusive and equitable learning environments and courses. [The Searle Center offers more information](#) about creating inclusive learning environments, inclusive pedagogy, and culturally relevant teaching. **Instructors and teaching assistants may also opt to sign up for Northwestern's [Inclusive Teaching Practicum](#).**
- **[Teaching Students in Different Time Zones](#)**: This document complements the suggestions from Northwestern's International Undergraduate Working Group, offering strategies for supporting the learning of students who may not be taking our courses in-person.
- **[Assessing the impact of remote learning on your students' preparedness and progress](#)**: This resource includes feasible practices for instructors and programs to diagnose any gaps in preparation, point students to useful resources, and make informed decisions about course design, instruction, and program milestones.

We also recommend that instructors take a [Universal Design for Learning \(UDL\)](#) approach, which can be applied to every discipline and which ensures that all students can access and meaningfully participate in all learning activities. UDL encourages flexibility and choice, and offering multiple approaches to assessment:

- AccessibleNU offers [an overview of UDL and a list of effective strategies](#).
- The School of Professional Studies provides ["Five Ways to Incorporate Universal Design for Learning into Your Online Course"](#), exploring how a course can support student engagement, representation, action and expression.