

Intrinsic Motivation and Culture:
How can understanding culture
improve our ability to motivate
ALL students.

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Graduate Teaching Community

Getting Organized

- Our session today:
 - Reflections on Motivation and Culture
 - Brainstorming on teaching
- Please form groups of 3-4 people.
 - Take 3-5 minutes to introduce yourself, tell your group the history of your first and last name, and say hello in each language you can speak.

Warm Up Prompt

- Take 5-8 minutes to reflect on the following prompt:

Think of at least three experiences in your life in which you were highly motivated to learn. What were you interested in and why? Which people/teachers influenced you most during this time? What did these people do to ignite your passion?

Reflecting on las Culturas en sus vidas (the Cultures in your lives)

15 - 20 minutes

- Choose one of three experiences from the warm up prompt (the one that impacted you most) and share your thoughts with your group members.
 - Please use the next slide as a reference to help you express your experience.

質問: Guiding Questions

- Just the facts:
 - What were you learning?
 - Who were two major influences in this particular educational experience?
 - On a scale of 1-100 how dedicated to your learning were you?
 - » 1 = no motivation
 - » 100 = extremely high
 - How do you use the skills you attained during this time today?
- Cultural Frame:
 - Where did the majority of your learning take place?
 - In what language did you learn?
 - How well did your teachers understand your cultural identity?
 - How well did other people in your learning environment understand your culture (fellow students, friends, family, etc)?

Compare and Contrast

- Now, take the experiences you described to each other and analyze your classes. The guiding assumption we will make in the following exercises is:
 - We, as educators, can use the wealth of culture in a room full of scholars to improve the educational environment and motivation of our students.

Brain Storming

- 1. As a group, work to generate an inclusive list of every demographic you have come into contact with through the students you have taught.
 - Examples:
 - Mexican born Immigrant, 19 years old
 - Tanzanian born graduate student, 32 years old
 - Irish decent California raised American, 21 years old
 - Japanese American, 19 years old
 - Chinese descendant American senior, 22 years old

- 2. What are two or three things that every student in your class with have in common?
- How do these shared understanding/ experiences aid in your ability to motivate your students?

- 3. Think of simple and effective ways to represent cultural diversity in the educational environment you create
 - Examples:
 - Around the World: Show up 5 minutes before lecture and play music from all over the world to lighten the mood and warm up
 - Have a sign: “I am interested in your Culture” hanging in your office.
 - Keep an Atlas in your office. During office hours, ask students to show you where their family came from and see if you can learn to say hello in a new language
 - Keep a list publicly titled:
 - Cultural Dialog: Help your teacher be as cool as you!
 - On this list, have your students suggest cultural foods they think the you should try, where these food come from and where you can get some locally. Make a dedication to try at least 5 of these in any given quarter and share your experience with your classes.