



Changing the Way to Teach: Making the Classroom Inclusive

Motivation

As the College of Engineering is striving to diversify its students, it's important to have an inclusive culture to create a healthy learning environment.

To create this, we are proposing to create a learning program all COE professors must take before they teach a class. This program will teach professors about certain aspects of their teaching such as phrases, examples, etc. so that they can be more aware of how they're impacting the classroom.

Key Terms/Concepts

1. Structural Bias - bias which is a consequences of the structure of systems in our society
2. Unconscious Bias - bias which arises in our everyday actions as a result of unconscious tendencies
3. Privilege - an advantage granted to a group of people which arises as a result of factors including biases, opportunity, quality-of-life, etc.
4. Hardwork and Grit - an individual's perseverance and passion; is a much better predictor of success than intelligence

Possible Training Content

- Importance of proper of language
- Importance of knowing students' confidence of course topics
 - Ways to get such information while making students comfortable
 - Google Form/Poll Everywhere
- How to get valuable feedback regarding teaching.
 - Mid-quarter survey & End of quarter survey
 - Anonymous feedback form
- Have accountability for the success of the program

Expected Results

- We expect that implementing a program such as this will drastically reduce the amount of students who feel discouraged when taking classes due to unintended language that professors use
- It's important that professors focus on allowing everybody to thrive in the classroom
- Emphasis should be placed on the work required for the course rather than the prerequisite knowledge or circumstances you should have already mastered
- The training program offers instructors increasing awareness of students with disabilities and offer proper help