A PLACE FOR ALL

THE IMPORTANCE OF CLASSROOM CLIMATE IN FOSTERING INCLUSION

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WHAT IS CLASSROOM CLIMATE?

- Multi-dimensional construct
- Subjective
- Dynamic system - dependent on all involved!

(see Barr, 2016)
CLASSROOM CLIMATE DEFINED

• The intellectual, social, emotional, and physical environments in which our students learn.

(Ambrose et al., 2010)
WAYS TO CREATE A POSITIVE CLIMATE

• I’m learning alongside you
• Questions are fantastic
• Student Profile worksheet
Get to know your students

Coffee With a Professor!

WOULD YOU LIKE TO...
- have the chance to talk with your professor one-on-one
- explore academic or career options

HERE'S YOUR CHANCE TO TREAT YOUR PROFESSOR TO COFFEE, ON US!

WWW.SJSU.EDU/CHATWITHAPROF
#SJSUchatwithaprof
WHY IS CLIMATE IMPORTANT?

- Influences student motivation
- Promotes cohesion
- Predicts students’ satisfaction

(see Barr, 2016)
HOW DOES CLIMATE INFLUENCE LEARNING?

• Engages students emotionally
• Promotes safe “risk taking”
• Models desired peer interactions

(see Barr, 2016)
STUDENT-STUDENT INTERACTIONS MATTER

• “Students’ perceptions of peer friendliness are a greater influence on their decision to participate in class than their perceptions of the instructor.”

(Fassinger, 2000)
CREATE POSITIVE CLIMATES IN YOUR OWN TEACHING

- Remember why you got into teaching
- Communicate your desire to help S’s learn
- Model a welcoming, caring, hopeful atmosphere!
WHAT STUDENTS WANT FROM INSTRUCTORS…

“[Good teachers] provide very meaningful examples that relate to life situations and are very open minded.”

“It really helps me learn when professors create an atmosphere that makes students comfortable to ask questions.”

“Be the teacher that you wanted to have.”

(Undergraduate Student Survey, Spring 2018)
“I want to thank you for being very understanding and considerate to all of your students. The interaction between you and your students is very welcoming and safe! I love the way you approach students with an open mind and a caring heart.”
REFERENCES

