

Adapted from Sammy Katta (<u>https://sammykatta.com/diversity</u>)

To facilitate a more inclusive classroom for all, we will all agree to adhere (to the best of our abilities) to the following guidelines for classroom interactions:

- 1. Share responsibility for including all voices in the conversation. If you tend to have a lot to say, make sure you leave sufficient space to hear from others. If you tend to stay quiet in group discussions, challenge yourself to contribute so others can learn from you.
- 2. **Listen respectfully.** Don't interrupt, turn to technology, or engage in private conversations while classmates are speaking.
- 3. **Be open to changing your perspectives based on what you learn from others.** Try to explore new ideas and possibilities. Think critically about the factors that have shaped your perspectives.
- 4. **Understand that your words have effects on others.** Speak with care. If you learn that something you've said was experienced as disrespectful or marginalizing, listen carefully and try to understand that perspective. Learn how you can do better in the future.
- 5. Understand that others will come to these discussions with different experiences from yours. Be careful about assumptions and generalizations you make based only on your own experience. Be open to hearing and learning from other perspectives.
- 6. **Differentiate between opinion--which everyone has--and informed knowledge**, which comes from sustained experience, study, and practice. Hold your opinions lightly and with humility.
- 7. Let go of personal anecdotal evidence about other people and instead share personal experiences or your informed knowledge of broader group-level patterns.