

# Active Engagement in First Year Seminars to Cultivate Critical Communication Skills

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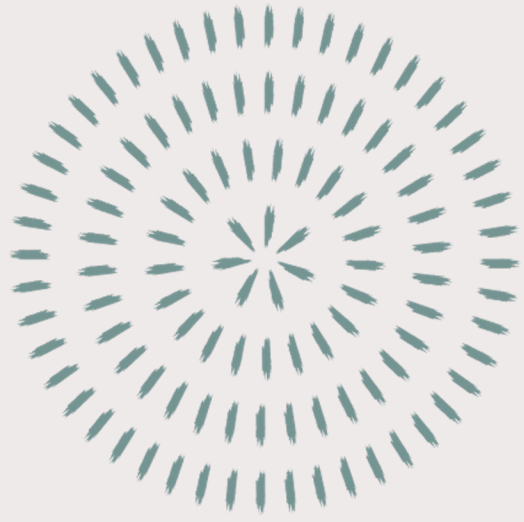
Carolyn Shaw



# Welcome

- Kimberly Engber
- Kevin Harrison
- Kelly McFall
- Carolyn Shaw





# **Structure of First Year Seminars at our institutions**



# Course Highlights

- "Active engagement" in our classes
- Ways we enhance student skills to critically understand our world and our place in it
- Ways we develop skills to have hard conversations on contemporary issues

The left side of the slide features a dark teal background with a grid of squares. Each square contains a different geometric pattern, including concentric circles, radial lines, and dotted patterns, all in a lighter shade of teal.

# Common and Contrasting Approaches

- Understanding of Self
- Understanding of Others

# **Audience participation**

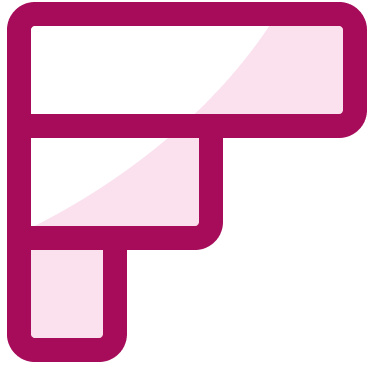
# slido



**In a few words, what are some of the biggest challenges you face getting students to engage in hard conversations?**

ⓘ Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.

slido



**Rank which issues you find most challenging when addressing hard conversations in class:**

① Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.



# Roundtable discussions

- Determining how to respond to students when I disagree (i.e. on moral issues)
- Determining ways to bring different perspectives into the classroom
- Keeping students curious and open minded / from drawing conclusions too early
- Securing support from administration to cultivate these conversations
- Deciding what topics to prioritize
- Establishing the ground rules for these conversations

# Conclusions

- Thanks for joining us today!

# Resources



- We've created a webpage with some of the resources we use in our classroom.  
[www.wichita.edu/HERU](http://www.wichita.edu/HERU).
- If you'd like notes from the discussions today, add your email to the Contacts List on this webpage.

