

Difficult Dialogues Resource List

[University of Michigan: Responding to Difficult Moments](#)

This list of resources provides strategies for dealing with difficult discussions in the classroom. Topics covered include addressing controversial or sensitive topics, responding to incidents of hate speech, and facilitating respectful and inclusive class participation.

[University of Michigan: Guidelines for Discussing Incidents of Hate, Bias, and Discrimination](#)

These guidelines provide a written list of “how-tos” for facilitating classroom discussions about incidents of hate, bias, and discrimination. Both spontaneous and planned discussions are covered.

[University of Michigan: Guidelines for Discussing Difficult or High-Stakes Topics](#)

These written guidelines help instructors facilitate discussions about difficult, emotional, and controversial issues. Many of the suggestions apply to a variety of topics, but wars and other international conflicts are discussed specifically.

[University of Michigan: Making the Most of Hot Moments in the Classroom](#)

This resource lists strategies to help instructors deal with “hot moments,” or unexpected moments of tension or conflict in the classroom.

[Harvard University: Navigating Difficult Moments](#)

This guide provides written “how-tos” for dealing with difficult moments in the classroom, such as inappropriate student comments or strong emotional reactions.

[Harvard University: Key Moves to Foster an Inclusive Learning Environment](#)

This guide lists strategies to create a respectful, inclusive learning environment for a diverse group of students, from the first day of the semester to the last.

[Difficult Dialogues National Resource Center: Strategies for Current Challenges in Dialogue Facilitation](#)

This written guide gives strategies to address current challenges in dialogue facilitation, including the speed and number of issues that arise, the increasing level of polarization, technological challenges, emotional burnout, and doubts about the appropriateness or helpfulness of the dialogue.

[University of North Carolina: Managing Classroom Conflict](#)

This article describes strategies for preventing and managing conflict in the classroom by clarifying expectations, developing social cohesion, and de-escalating conflicts with the “SOAR-UP” process.

[Start Talking: A Handbook for Engaging Difficult Dialogues in Higher Education](#)

This book describes what faculty from two Alaska universities learned about fostering civil discourse after undergoing a faculty intensive and bringing their new knowledge into their classrooms. Topics covered include debate, rhetoric, race, class, culture, science, religion, business, politics, and social justice.