



# Symposium on Educational Excellence 2025

## Using the critical teaching behaviors framework to reflect on your teaching

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### Keywords

Teaching, faculty development, teaching effectiveness, reflection

### Abstract

The purpose of this workshop is to introduce participants to a practical framework for effective teaching and how they can use this framework to reflect on, improve, and document their experiences and impact as educators.

In their book *Critical Teaching Behaviors: Defining, Documenting, and Discussing Good Teaching*, Barbeau and Cornejo Happel (2023) present a model of effective teaching across six categories: align, include, engage, assess, integrate technology, and reflect. The framework outlines the evidence supporting these behaviors and strategies for implementing them.

In a key work on critical reflection in teaching, Brookfield (2017) identifies four sources of information that educators can use to reflect on their teaching: self, students, colleagues, and research/theory. While this workshop will focus mainly on self-reflection, we will also discuss the ways educators can collect artifacts and examples that they use to reflect further and illustrate their teaching effectiveness.

### Learning Objectives

1. At the end of the workshop, participants will be able to:
2. Name effective teaching practices in the Critical Teaching Behaviors model (Barbeau & Cornejo Happel, 2023)
3. Reflect on strengths and areas for growth in your teaching
4. Develop a plan to implement and document a teaching behavior

**Applications:** This workshop is relevant for new and experienced educators. Participants can use skills and knowledge from this workshop to engage in self-assessment, make improvements in their courses, build their teaching portfolios and CVs, and gather feedback on their teaching through a variety of sources.

**DEI:** As an educator, reflecting on your own behaviors and beliefs is a key step in improving your course and fostering an inclusive learning environment. The Critical Teaching Behaviors model presented in this workshop connects to and supports diversity, equity, and inclusion in education. One of the teaching behaviors in the framework focuses on inclusive and equitable teaching and highlights the importance of belonging, community, and accessibility.

**Active learning and engagement:** The workshop will use a variety of active learning strategies to engage participants, which may include small group discussion, quick writing/minute papers, and guided notes/worksheets. Attendees will have many opportunities to connect with and reflect on their experiences and goals as an educator.

## References

1. Barbeau, L., & Cornejo Happel, C. (2023). Critical teaching behaviors: defining, documenting, and discussing good teaching. Routledge.
2. Brookfield, S. (2017). Becoming a critically reflective teacher (2nd ed.). Jossey-Bass.