

Learning Track 2: Constructive Dialogue Skills

Peer-to-Peer 2: How We Connect Through Difference



Welcome Back and Some Reminders

Welcome to your final peer-to-peer conversation!

Please designate one person to read the following instructions out loud.

What are Peer-to-Peers?

Peer-to-peers are guided conversations you will have with two or more peers as you go through the *Perspectives: Constructive Dialogue Skills* online lessons. Think of it like training – peer-to-peers isolate the specific skills you are learning about in *Perspectives: Constructive Dialogue Skills*. This offers you a chance to practice them before testing them out in open discussions in class, residence halls, or other campus spaces.

Each conversation is designed to take 30-40 minutes to complete.

Peer-to-Peer logistics



Keeping Time – Please establish a timekeeper. The clock icon will indicate when they need to keep time to ensure the group stays on task.



Go-Rounds – The group takes turns responding to a prompt for the exact same amount of time. When it's your turn to share, you are the only one allowed to speak – everyone else just listens.



Read-Alouds – This icon indicates when the designated person should read text out loud to the group.

Connect Before Content



Each person can **choose from one** of the prompts listed below, and has 30 seconds to think about their answer. Then begin an untimed go-round to share.



- Share with the group one talent you have that you could teach somebody else, and one thing you really would like to learn.
- What is something you see happening in the world that gives you hope?
- Who is someone in your life that you are grateful for lately?

Group Norms



Remember the P2P group norms? Here they are again:

1. We will respect others' perspectives and beliefs, even if we don't agree with them.
2. We will commit to confidentiality – what is shared in peer-to-peer stays in peer-to-peer.

Main Activity: How We Connect Through Difference

Mini-Dialogue

In this mini-dialogue, you have the chance to practice all the skills and mindsets you've been learning about in *Perspectives*. This session will be less structured than previous peer-to-peers. While others are sharing, think about the way you:



1. Let go of winning
2. Get curious
3. Share stories
4. Navigate conflict with purpose
5. Find what's shared



Read the scenario below silently and think for 1 minute about your response.

Tina is a first-year student living in campus housing. She approaches her residential advisor a few weeks into the semester and shares that the student living across from her has hung a large confederate flag in their dorm room, which she can see whenever the door is open. Tina believes that the flag is a violation of the university's values of inclusion and respect, and should be removed. When the university takes a few weeks to respond to her request, Tina decides to post the story on social media, and it is then picked up by the school newspaper and the national press.

How do you react to this situation? What values, beliefs, or experiences are shaping your reaction? Is there any way you're torn or conflicted?

Go-Round



Everyone has 2 minutes to respond in a go-round.

During each person's allotted 2 minutes, they *only* speak and others *only* listen. After the go-round is complete and everyone has shared for their 2 minutes, the group can discuss freely. Share additional thoughts, ask questions of one another, and learn more about where each person is coming from. Remember to balance air-time as much as possible.

Make sure you finish your conversation 5 minutes before the end of the session so you have time for your wrap-up.

Wrap-Up



To conclude this peer-to-peer conversation, each of you should share a response to the following prompts.



Please keep your responses to a few sentences each.



What was one thing that went well in this peer-to-peer conversation? What was something that surprised you about it? What is one thing you noticed that you want to continue to work on?

This concludes your final peer-to-peer conversation. Now that you have completed *Perspectives: Constructive Dialogue Skills* and your peer-to-peers, you are ready to take these skills and run with them.

We hope you'll find ways, both big and small, to apply constructive dialogue to your lives beyond the classroom walls and even beyond your college experience. This is never easy work, but you have what you need to get started. Good luck!