

HOW YOU CAN CREATE A CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENT FOR STUDENTS TO HAVE DIFFICULT CONVERSATIONS.

The following list of resources provide some insight and tools into ways you can foster not just safe spaces but brave spaces. Spaces where students can be their authentic selves, give honest perspectives and opinions, and the courage to lean into discomfort when hearing experiences, backgrounds and ideas different from their own.

Articles

- + [Five Ways to Create a Safe Classroom Space \(2014\)](#), Stephanie Carrillo - Facing History and Ourselves. How to intentionally and purposefully build classroom culture for all students to bring their full selves.
- + [Safe Spaces, Difficult Dialogues, and Critical Thinking \(2013\)](#), Gayle, Cortez and Preiss. Strategies to enhance student learning through the implementation of safe spaces that increases critical thinking.
- + [What "Facilitation" Really Means and why It's Key to the Future of Work, \(2017\)](#), Brandon Klein. Some tips on how to give structure and purpose to groups whenever you bring people together.
- + [The Seven Separators of Great Facilitation, Michael Wilkinson](#). Key techniques for great facilitation.

Books

- + [From Safe to Brave Spaces \(2013\)](#), Brian Arao and Kristi Clemens. Effective ways to be a better facilitator and re-think moving from creating a safe space to a brave space.
- + [Culturally Responsive Teaching and The Brain: Promoting Authentic Engagement and Rigor Among Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Student \(2015\)](#), Zaretta Hammond. Cutting-edge neuroscience research to offer an innovative approach for designing and implementing brain-compatible culturally responsive instruction + ways to optimize student engagement and facilitate deeper connections.
- + [Difficult Conversations: How to Discuss What Matters Most \(2010\)](#), Stone, Patton and Heen. Step-by-step approaches to engage difficult conversations with less stress and more success.

Videos

- + [How to Have a Good Conversation \(2015\)](#), Celeste Headlee. 10 lessons to listen deeply, pay attention and set aside ones self to learn something from the person you are "interviewing".
- + [The Power of Vulnerability \(2011\)](#), Brené Brown. How the power of connection, sharing stories and being vulnerable helps create lives of meaning and purpose.
- + [Empathy: The Heart of Difficult Conversations \(2017\)](#), Michelle Stowe. Making use of a restorative practice model to help create community and connection + restorative questions to ask.
- + [How to Train Employees to Have Difficult Conversations \(2018\)](#), Tamekia Smith. Using a simple technique to inspire colleagues (and your students) to communicate with compassion and respect.
- + [Get Comfortable With Being Uncomfortable \(2017\)](#), Luvvie Ajayi. Three questions to ask yourself if you're teetering on the edge of speaking up or quieting down + great video to show students to encourage them to lean into discomfort.
- + [How To Build \(and Rebuild\) Trust \(2018\)](#), Frances Frej. How to build, maintain and rebuild trust. Gain insight into how authenticity, logic, and empathy help create a trusting environment.
- + [The Muslim on the Airplane \(2016\)](#), Amal Kassir. The importance of knowing the stories of others and how the simple question "what's your name?" helps bring humans closer together.