Cultural Humility and Sense of Belonging through LMS

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Sense of Belonging

- Where students feel “accepted, respected, included and supported by others” in academic settings (Goodenow, 1993)
- In an online setting, students experience sense of belonging through community developed between instructors and peers
- Student Identity plays a role in how students learn in TNE
- Students want to connect to resources, activities and that match what they are learning and that are accessible to them
- Students are directly impacted by sense of belonging through student success, retention and completion

*Students want the experience to feel more than “transactional” through LMS*
Cultural Humility

- Provide understanding, example, “in the weeds”
- Consider the learning goals of students: Local vs. Global
- Survey students and learn about student identities
- Offer flexible deadlines and alternative assignments (consider cultural holidays/events)

Occurs in LMS is when curriculum and content honors the beliefs, customs and values of the culture they are engaging with intention.
Tips for LMS

- Give students a chance to share about themselves and their identities
- Include images and authors with diverse backgrounds on D2L
- Consider cultural context/language
- Clarity of information/deadlines
- Course flexibility
- Offer ways for students to connect to peers and instructors
- Provide Space for Feedback
- Include additional resources for students to follow-up (readings, links, opportunities)