

Culturally Responsive-Sustaining Education (CRSE): Integrating Antiracist & Social Justice Practices

CRSE: a framework that values students' cultural and racial identities and lived experiences, leverages underrepresented voices, and empowers learners to be catalysts for change.

Unpacking the 4 Principles of the CRSE Framework:

1. Welcoming and Affirming Environment: Affirming Cultural Identities

Learn from and with students about their cultural identities and represent this in your course for students to feel a sense of belonging

- **Course Syllabus with Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB) Commitment Sample Statement:** *As a class, we are committed to cultivating a learning community and space for belonging to share and exchange learning. We celebrate diverse identities, perspectives, and voices and everyone is invited to contribute and co-create learning together.*
- **Cultural Identities:** race, color, ethnicity, culture, national origin, gender identity and expression, age, sexual orientation, religion, spirituality, marital status, veteran status, physical abilities, learning abilities, learning styles, etc.
- **Resource:** [DEIB Commitment Statement Guide from Harvard University](#)

2. High Expectations & Rigorous Instruction: Developing Academic Success

Foster a growth mindset in your students by encouraging them to set goals, take academic risks and make mistakes, and engage in student leadership

- **Self-Assessments:** Create an assignment for students to self-reflect upon their learning goals for your course or a project as way to see progress
- **Resource:** [CRSE Puts Rigor at the Center by Z. Hammond](#)

3. Inclusive Curriculum & Assessment: Integrating Diverse Perspectives

Co-create curriculum with students to represent their identities, interests, and learning styles and evaluate learning through different forms of assessment

- **Project Based Learning (PBL):** Present an issue or challenge and have students creatively problem solve and share their thought process
- **Resource:** [Alternatives to Exams - Harvard DCE Dept. of Teaching & Learning](#)

4. Ongoing Professional Learning & Support: Evolving Teaching & Learning

Engage in job-embedded professional learning, a community of practice, trainings, and critically reflect upon and align your practice to current trends

- **Reflecting Upon Your Identities:** Examine how your identity influences your views and biases and challenge inequitable systems of access, power, privilege, and oppression. This develops cultural humility and critical consciousness.
- **Resource:** [5 Essential Strategies to Embrace CRSE from Faculty Focus](#)