

How to make our class a flourishing space [website] (Queen Mary Academy PGCAP Module 7216/B24)

Introduced Flourishing to the PGCAP. Co-created Flourishing Classroom principles.

- Codification of classroom relations in HE usually as 'contract' or 'rules' and focused on compliance and accountability
- Motivated by an expanded idea of 'space'. Here it mean learning environment.
- Expanded idea of space came from collaboration with team, our own weekly meetings. Physical, digital, conceptual.
- Creation of 'generating conditions'/'enablers' of flourishing. These are infrastructure aspects of Flourishing Spaces

PADLET with participant comments <https://qmul.padlet.org/opopoola1/how-to-make-our-class-a-flourishing-space-7216-b24-p65h04bjnzcxp5dw>

Flourishing Classroom Principles + PROMPT (developed with Professor Louise Younie)



How can we make this class a space where everyone can flourish?

In groups, come up with a list of behaviours and attitudes that help us create an environment where we can all flourish...

What are the components of a 'flourishing' space?

- Psychological safety
- Voice and expression
- Compassion
- Creative Enquiry
- 'Messiness' (acknowledgement and acceptance of complexity)
- Inclusive (Belonging -Dignity-Justice)
- Growth/Transformation- Relational (co-creation, collaboration)

[Younie, L. \(2024\) How might we cultivate flourishing spaces? Journal of Holistic Healthcare 21 \(1\)](#)

Younie, L, and Popoola, O. (2024) What is a flourishing space and how might they be enabled in higher education Available at: <https://thechat.com/2024/11/22/lthechat-309-what-is-a-flourishing-space-and-how-might-they-be-enabled-in-higher-education/>



Our Flourishing Classroom Principles!

CILT/PGCAP ADP7217 Monday

1. Foster a Safe and Inclusive Environment

Encourage open feedback, diverse engagement methods (written, verbal, (using anonymity options if necessary) to ensure all voices are heard in a judgemental space.

2. Bring Informality to Sessions

Allow relevant tangents and less formal discussions (post-webinar forum? group? Social media?) to create a flexible and engaging learning environment.

3. Facilitate Time Management and Focus

Ensure discussions are managed effectively, keeping them structured and while striving for meaningful contributions from all participants.

4. Balance Messiness and Structure

Balance discursiveness and inclusivity: encourage creative discussions but structure to keep focus.

5. Ensure No One is Left Behind

Keep everyone updated on asynchronous learning. Provide peer-to-peer support, potentially with in-person or hybrid meet-ups.

6. Encourage Engagement and Visibility

Promote the use of cameras and microphones in breakout rooms, keep groups small (max 4), and create structured opportunities for participation.

7. Establish Communication Norms and Etiquette

Set clear guidelines on contributions, active listening, and respectful discussions to ensure inclusivity, engagement, and smooth interactions.

8. Develop a Culture of Open-mindedness and Learning

Encourage participants to view mistakes as learning opportunities, embrace diverse perspectives, and invite contributors to not fear judgment!

9. Supportive Learning Environment

As well as peer support, promote constructive feedback and opportunities for reflection and collaboration.