

Arlene Ray

14:08

We loved having cultural lunches where we picked a culture and shared dishes. Sadly current circumstances make this difficult but we look forward to getting back to it!

Leeanne #2

14:08

agree Arlene - perhaps we should institute a sharing recipes whilst we are at a distance?

Arlene Ray

14:09

Great idea Leeanne

Martin

14:09

Shamima, I really like your expression "to respect other cultures while respecting my own culture"

No one needs to lose their identity while being assimilating into the local culture

Lauren Dunlop

14:09

I agree

Rona Patey

14:11

I agree Arlene and Leeanne - maybe we could link it to different cultural celebrations across the year and involve the students and not just the staff?

Asha Venkatesh

14:11

I agree - I dont like to be recognised by my ethnicity either!

Arlene Ray

14:12

Rona yes we can move that forward as student's return

MARK WHITTINGTON

14:16

Thanks, Shamima

Arlene Ray

14:16

Really interesting thanks Shamima

AMUDHA POOBALAN

14:16

Thanks Shamima

Abbe

14:16

thanks Shamima

CHERYL DOWIE

14:17

Thanks Shamima, well presented 😊

ALICE HU

14:17

Thanks, Shamima...

SHAMIMA HAQUE

14:18

Thank you all

Asha Venkatesh

14:18

Hi Shamima, Your talk echoed some of the problems I faced myself. I worry about your thoughts about groupings though. Studies have shown that diverse groups mean all students gain more! so I think you should still divide groups keeping a diverse mix in each but maybe support those whose 1st language isn't English! Your thoughts?

Clare Sutherland

14:19

@asha venkatesh I was thinking the same thing

Scott

14:19

Hi Shamima. Thank you! Regarding your comments on the Group work, do you see any downside from allowing students to choose their own group, or be put in groups by ethnicity?

Janet Kyle

14:19

Thank you Shamima, thinking about group work, I often mix-up the class to ensure there is a mix of nationalities within each group as thought this enhanced the students experience.

Clare Sutherland

14:19

I also wondered if it would be useful to set up a Teams channel for cultural diversity to keep some of these discussions active?

Janet Kyle

14:19

And now see a few others are saying this!

SHAMIMA HAQUE

14:19

Thanks Asha. Yes, I agree to your views on group work. In fact that was my thinking before forming the groups. Good to know that you think alike

14:21

thanks Scott. I believe keeping the groups diversified is important. Having said that we also need to make sure that nobody is disadvantaged in any way.

AMUDHA POOBALAN

14:21

I agree with having diverse groups. From my own experience, it might be harder to start with, but very beneficial in the longer run for learning

SHAMIMA HAQUE

14:22

Thanks Janet. Yes I agree this is very important.

Janet Kyle

14:22

Amudha that is the feedback I've received from students too..

SHAMIMA HAQUE

14:23

Thanks Amudha. I agree.

Abbe

14:26

Thanks Mark

Scott

14:26

I think a tension arises less from diversity per se and more from the collective grading of the output of the group. Some students worry their grade will reduce due to lack of effort from others. So concerns arise as to "who is doing the work" and unfortunately it can appear to some that those who speak less contribute less. And language is of course part of that. Language support becomes all the more important.

Leeanne #2

14:26

thanks Mark, sounds a great success

Clare Sutherland

14:26

were buddies for staff-staff and students-students, or staff-students?

Asha Venkatesh

14:26

That sounds really positive Mark!! Thanks for sharing!

Aziz

14:26

thanks Mark. great insight!

Ekaterina Pavlovskaja

14:26

thank you Mark

CHERYL DOWIE

14:27

Thanks Mark!

SHAMIMA HAQUE

14:27

Thank you Mark.

Ashish Malik

14:27

There is a newly launched uni-wide Race Network for people of colour to share their experience. Its a forum to share and listen. We have a Teams Chanel. If you'd like you join please send an email to vimal.subramanian@abdn.ac.uk

OANA MATEI

14:27

@Janet we unfortunately cannot hear you, could you post your question in the chat?

Rona Patey

14:27

Thank you Mark - really interesting and good approaches to follow - great reminder about the need to remember that culture is not static!

Martin

14:27

@Mark good to see your comment about humour --this is really important

Scott

14:28

Thanks Mark. Your comment that cultures do not stay the same is very interesting. Have you noticed any change as a result of the US-China tensions?

Clare Sutherland

14:28

thanks @ashish! is anyone welcome? I would like to listen, but I don't want to intrude accidentally (I'm white)

MARK WHITTINGTON

14:29

Clare - were buddies for staff-staff and students-students, or staff-students?

Clare Sutherland

14:30

@mark, yes, were they peer based or between staff and students (or both)? I wasn't sure

MARK WHITTINGTON

14:30

SCNU saw it as their staff development but it grew into something that benefited every I think. Peer based

Ashish Malik

14:30

@Clare I think allies are welcome but Vimal can confirm

Clare Sutherland

14:31

@ashish great I will email, and @mark thanks!

Janet Kyle

14:31

I often struggle to ensure Chinese students get a equitable learning experience here in the UK at masters level, sense the culture and learning styles differences are important. Do you have any hot tips how to improve there experience after working with teaching buddy system?

Rona Patey

14:32

We often think of buddies / mentors for students but not for staff and the concept of a cultural buddy is something that we could build on across the university

MARK WHITTINGTON

14:33

Hi Scott, haven't been out recently. We were well aware that China had a vision for more integration of domestic and overseas teaching of Chinese students and SCNU made it clear taking this on board would be a very positive step, which proved to be true.

Leeanne #2

14:33

@Rona I agree perhaps as part of induction we should be buddied up it might be cultural but not necessarily

Rona Patey

14:34

sorry - didn't finish my sentence re cultural buddy - I was thinking of this with reference to our academic endeavours - could help with our understanding of what not to say , how different approaches might be received, what is /isn't funny and so on

AMUDHA POOBALAN

14:35

Staff buddy system is a great idea Rona

Leeanne #2

14:35

like your analogy Alice - Aberdeen as a prison!

Rona Patey

14:36

@ Leeanne - lockdown!

Janet Kyle

14:36

Definitely support staff cultural buddy idea.

Clare Sutherland

14:36

I'm also keen on a cultural buddy scheme.

MARK WHITTINGTON

14:37

Hi Janet, I agree that some PGT Chinese students can seem less inclined (or less invited?) to participate. The buddy system of a Chinese speaker helped bridge that gap in this context. I have also found that Chinese students might want longer to reflect before asking a question or making a comment (perhaps wanting to think it through rather more first). I am hoping that my online pre-recorded lectures followed by later Q&As have given more reflection time than just the end of the lecture.

Leeanne #2

14:39

@Janet and Mark - I think although this might have been highlighted in a group of students (Chinese) this is probably true of other students who have different learning styles and personalities

MARK WHITTINGTON

14:39

Leeanne - sure, not just Chinese students - just that is who I was talking about

Martin

14:40

Thank you for some marvellous insights, Alice

Alyson

14:40

Thank you Alice, that was very helpful.

SHAMIMA HAQUE

14:41

Thank you Alice

Abbe

14:41

Thank you Alice

Scott

14:41

Thanks Alice. 😊

ALICE HU

14:41

Thanks, Martin and Alyson..Shamima

Janet Kyle

14:41

Thanks Mark, this makes sense. I think it also highlights that the cultural buddy system may help staff work with students from different backgrounds and as Leeanne highlights learning needs

CHERYL DOWIE

14:41

Thank you Alice, good points discussed

Janet Kyle

14:41

Thank you Alice that was really insightful

Asha Venkatesh

14:44

My first experience in Aberdeen - sitting on a first bus and wondering if the ladies in front of me were speaking English! - I couldn't understand a single word of the Doric accent!!

ALICE HU

14:49

For Mark's question about inviting students to talk, my ways to handle this issue is to talk students before class starts and ask them if they have any questions. Chinese students have high respect for lecturers. We need to invite questions...This approach also creates an image of an approachable lecturer...Students will feel comfortable at asking questions later on..

Elizabeth Anderson

14:50

Asha - I moved to Aberdeen from Glasgow a few years ago and I couldn't understand many folk here either (just as I couldn't understand Glaswegians when I first moved there) - accents are so diverse!

ALICE HU

14:51

I created a WhatsApp group for students to have Q&A. I find that students raised more questions than the usual Q&A sessions at classroom. Almost every student has questions. Just find a way to let students freely talk about their questions.

Leeanne #2

14:51

Was monday session recorded I was not able to attend the student's experiences?

JENNIFER DUTHIE

14:52

Yes

Abbe

14:52

Alice did you experience any reluctance from students in sharing details for Whatsapp?

Clare Sutherland

14:52

I love the black panther quote! thanks to all the lecturers for sharing your experiences

Laura Gates

14:52

Thank you Shamina, Mark, Alice, Amudha and all. Very helpful.

Rona Patey

14:52

I found teaching sensitive issues in medicine that with collaborate sessions that students really opened up in the chat function in a way I had never experienced with face to face in a large group - this may be one of the benefits of our blended learning approach

Abbe

14:52

Thanks Amudha

ALICE HU

14:52

@Abbe, students are very interactive in whatsapp. They have endless questions....

Abbe

14:53

@rona I found the same

14:53

@Alice i meant more about sharing their phone number

Liz Curtis

14:53

thank you Amudha, lots of food for thought 😊

Rona Patey

14:53

@abbe - I will never go back to teaching that session face to face again

MARK WHITTINGTON

14:53

Yes, online chat has been areal positive from the current situation

Shahida #3

14:54

Thanks to all of the speakers for sharing their valuable experiences. Very useful.

Rona Patey

14:54

This has been a very useful session and I have gained something from each presentations - just to say that Mark started the buddy conversation - thank you Mark!!

Edwin Amalraj Raja

14:55

How to transfer a (intl) student from root learning to critical thinker within a year? do you have any suggestion after from making them to read & read

Leeanne #2

14:55

Just as some comments have been about not wanting to be described by ethnicity we also need to be careful not to put people in the position of being a 'spokesperson' for a culture as we all, as demonstrated by today's speakers, different stories and journeys.

ALICE HU

14:56

@abbe, students never report this issue to me. I did not force anyone to join. They can send me emails too. Even after the course, students still stay in the whatsapp group...They find this group useful to help find each other to organize groups for later courses.

Wendy Lawrenson

14:56

Thank you to all of the presenters, lots of very good points raised

Abbe

14:56

thanks @alice really interesting

Edwin Amalraj Raja

14:57

Thank you

Abbe

14:57

got to go now, thanks so much everyone

Clare Sutherland

14:58

I have another meeting, thanks everyone! I really enjoyed it

Rhoda Wilkie #2

14:58

thank you for organising this session, very helpful!

CHERYL DOWIE

14:58

Thanks Amudha, very interesting presentation

Heather Branigan

14:58

I have to go now too, thank you to all the presenters!

Asha Venkatesh

14:59

thank you all!

Laura Gates

14:59

I have another meeting. Thanks to all

Dan Wall

14:59

Thanks everyone for those very interesting and useful talks!

Elizabeth Anderson

14:59

thanks all very much!

Neil Curtis

14:59

Thank you all!

Karen Taylor

14:59

thank you everyone

Janet Kyle

14:59

Thanks everyone a great session.

Kara Layton

14:59

Thanks very much everyone!

Martin

14:59

This has been fascinating. Thanks to all.

Leone Craig

14:59

Thank you all

Liz Curtis

14:59

thank you all 😊

Arlene Ray

14:59

Thanks everyone - really interesting

Leeanne #2

14:59

Thanks to all the speakers, it was lovely to hear your stories and insights

Ruth

14:59

Thank you everyone - great session.

Alyson

14:59

Thanks everyone - useful ideas for application.

Jenny Gregory #2

14:59

Thanks everyone!

CHERYL DOWIE

14:59

Thank you Jennifer, thank you all...

SHAMIMA HAQUE

14:59

Thank you all

Timothy Baker

15:00

Thanks all!

ALICE HU

15:00

Thank you all