Building Community
Inside of the Classroom and Beyond

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Welcome

- Introductions
- Ground Rules
- Experiential Activity
Community *Defined*

Activity:

- Stand by the quote that resonates with you.
- In your groups, define community.
- Write your definition of community on the poster paper provided.
Community Defined

Activity:

- Shared Definition of Community using the 3 Q’s:
  - “Queezing”
  - “Queening”
  - “Quonnecting”
Community Building Strategies

Practices that foster a sense of community in your campus learning environment.
What strategies have you seen today that may foster a sense of community?
In your small groups, discuss the community-building strategies that you currently use, or would like to use, in your interaction with students?
COMMUNITY BUILDING STRATEGIES
Strategies for Building Community in the Classroom

- Create a welcoming environment for students in the classroom.
- Develop class Ground Rules.
- Arrive to class early to greet students before class begins. Learn student’s names and interests as early in the term as possible.
- Emphasize collaborative activities that require group interactions and engagement.
Strategies for Building Community in the Classroom

- Reinforce the importance that all voices in the community are important, respected, and valued.
- Create a safe and secure learning environment.
- Create a competitive game that enhances learning and community building skills.
- Create a class ritual: Daily Quotes, Word of The Day, Song or music that emphasizes daily lessons or topics for discussion.
Strategies for Building Community beyond the Classroom

- Welcoming Environment – Allow your space to become community space.
- Encourage students to interact outside of the classroom through community involvement, community service projects, social media, etc.
- Umoja Programs require Village Space – which may include a study space and team building exercises.
Strategies for Building Community beyond the Classroom

- The shared space is intentional and deliberately allocated just for students to know that they belong to the college community.

- Offer extra credit assignments for students to attend a cultural event as a group.

- Encourage campus engagement by inviting students to attend meetings with you to enhance their learning experience. Meeting attendance reinforces to the student that his/her voice matters in the decision making process.
ELEMENTS OF A HEALTHY COMMUNITY (ONE WORD)