

Syllabus Diversity Statement

Proposed by the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee on March 30, 2023

Approved by the Provost Council on April 21, 2023

Loyola has taken a variety of effective steps towards inclusive excellence which ensures that all students feel welcomed, inspired, and supported. To further support this goal, the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee recommends that all faculty be provided with examples of diversity, equity, and inclusion statements for their syllabi and that a more generic statement be included in syllabus part II. In 2020, Loyola faculty were encouraged to take Cornell University's Center for Teaching Innovation course on inclusive learning. During this course, the Cornell instructors emphasized the importance of including a diversity, equity, and inclusion statement in syllabi to accomplish the following goals:

- To reiterate commitment to diverse perspectives and inclusive learning
- To honor diverse backgrounds and identities
- To signal awareness about and openness towards conversations surrounding diversity, equity, and inclusion

Syllabus Part II will include a generic statement:

Loyola values each of your unique perspectives, experiences, and understandings of the world and will respect all students' contributions. Our diversity as a class—in race, gender identity, sex, sexual orientation, religion, language, ability, socioeconomic or military status, national or ethnic origin—is an asset to our learning experience. Please remember that discriminatory language and conduct is never acceptable.

The administration will add examples of more in-depth diversity, equity, and inclusion statements on the [Loyola template website](#). The syllabus template will provide only suggested examples which might include:

I value each of your unique perspectives, experiences, and understandings of the world and will respect all students' contributions. Our diversity as a class—in race, gender identity, sex, sexual orientation, religion, language, ability, socioeconomic or military status, national or ethnic origin—is an asset to our learning experience. As a result, I will strive to provide inclusive lessons and assignments that provide you with the opportunity to speak and be heard, explore your own understanding, and encounter each other. Through these conversations, it is acceptable to disagree with viewpoints, but we will do so in a respectful and affirming way. Please remember that discriminatory language and conduct is never acceptable