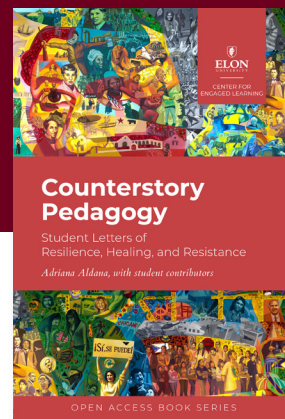


REFLECTING ON POSITIONALITY AND TEACHING CONTEXT

Objective

This worksheet helps educators reflect on their identity and teaching context to draft a positionality statement that can prepare them to engage in counterstory pedagogy.



Part 1: Reflecting on Your Identity

Social Identity Reflection

- How do you identify regarding your race, ethnicity, gender, class, ability, sexual orientation, and other aspects of your identity?
- Which aspects of your identity do you feel most connected to? Why?
- Are there aspects of your identity you find yourself reflecting on less often? Why might that be?

Identity in Relation to Power

- In what ways does your identity grant you privilege in your educational context?
- In what ways does your identity position you in opposition to dominant systems or structures of power?
- How does your identity shape the way you interact with your students and colleagues?

Positionality and Storytelling

Reflect on a time when your identity shaped the way you interpreted a situation or interacted with a student or colleague. What happened, and what did you learn from that experience?

Part 2: Reflecting on Your Educational Context

Classroom Demographics

- What are the demographics of your classroom or institution (race, gender, class, ability, etc.)?
- How might these demographics influence student experiences and engagement in counterstory pedagogy?

Institutional Culture and Power Dynamics

- How has white supremacy or other systems of oppression shaped your educational institution? What are the dominant norms or cultural practices in your educational institution?
- Are there barriers that might make counterstory pedagogy difficult to implement in your classroom? How might you address them?

Your Role as an Educator

- How do you imagine your identity might shape your engagement with counterstory pedagogy?
- What role do you see yourself playing in creating a classroom environment conducive to brave spaces and counter-narrative sharing?
- What practices can you implement to ensure you are fostering inclusion and empowerment through counterstory pedagogy?

Part 3: Drafting Your Positionality Statement

Use your reflections from Parts 1 and 2 to draft your positionality statement. You may want to start with the following prompts:

- “As an educator, I recognize that my identity as [insert aspects of identity] shapes the way I”
- “I acknowledge my positionality concerning my students and commit to...”
- “I strive to create a classroom environment that...”