

DRAFT Syllabus Statement

“You belong here, as do your classmates. You belong here if you had great teachers and positive experiences of schooling. You belong here if schools and society have marginalized you and your community. You belong here if you are Sikh, Muslim, Jewish, Christian, Buddhist, Hindu, Atheist, Secular Humanist, Pagan, follow some other belief system, or adhere to no organized belief system at all. You belong here if you are still figuring out what and who you are. You belong here if you are documented, DACAmented, or undocumented. You belong here if you are a person of color, or white, or perceived to be white, or if you are of mixed racial/ethnic heritage, or if you are perceived to be other identities that you aren’t. You belong here if you have an exceptionality or disability, if you have intellectual, cognitive, or emotional disabilities or if you are neurotypical. You belong here if you identify as gender nonconforming or LGBTQ, or if you’re still learning what some of those letters mean. You belong here no matter what language you grew up speaking. You belong here regardless of your political affiliation, or if you don’t have one. You belong here if your mom was a professor or if you were the first one in your family to graduate from high school. Whatever your body type, appearance, talents, abilities, identities, histories, or backgrounds, you belong here if you are here to learn and to be humane, inclusive, respectful, rigorous, and just toward the others who are also here to learn.

As the instructor for this course, I will try hard to ensure you and your classmates always remember that you belong here, and to ensure you and your classmates feel welcome and valued. I expect all members of this class to do the same. Your decision to remain in this course will serve as your agreement to adhere to the commitments to diversity and inclusion outlined above.”