

# Empowering Personalized Learning Through Voice and Choice

Concentration: Advancing Innovation through Design and Strategy

Format: Quality Chat

# Introductions



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# Outcomes

- Define voice and choice as part of culturally inclusive design.
- Describe use of voice and choice in both online and traditional settings.
- Generate strategies for implementing voice and choice.

# Voice and Choice

- Voice
  - Empowering students to contribute their ideas and perspectives based on their existing knowledge, experiences, and interests (Simunich, Brooks, & Grincewicz, 2023)
- Choice
  - Course learning situations where students are provided an opportunity to make decisions about their learning (Simunich, Brooks, & Grincewicz, 2023)



# Personalized Learning Environment

- An educational environment where students contribute to the decision process of what and how they will learn
  - Subjects & owners of their learning process
- Personalized learning: “...instruction in which the pace of learning and the instructional approach are optimized for the needs of each learner [...] In addition, learning activities are meaningful and relevant to learners, driven by their interests, and often self-initiated” (US Department of Education 2016:7)



# Dimensions of Personalization

- Personalization can...
  - ...occur at variable degrees of depth.
  - ...occur for different numbers or groups of students.
  - ...vary with respect to ownership.

(Walkington & Bernacki 2014)





## • Considerations:

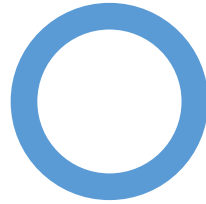
- Learner Ability & Preference
- Cultural & Experiential Knowledge
- Motivation
- Neurodiversity
- Power Dynamics & Systemic Inequality
- Technology Limitations/Barriers



Inclusive  
Design



# Voice and Choice in Online Settings




- Digital Transformation Micro-Credential Series
- Intentional Inclusion of Voice and Choice
- Shifting to a Shared Goal



# Examples of Voice and Choice

- Emphasis on professional lives & interests
- Workshop examples
  - First Workshop
  - Middle 3 Workshops
  - Final Workshops
- Continuous Engagement & Skill Development





## Voice and Choice Implementation

- Voice and Choice can be implemented everywhere
- Examples from traditional face-to-face courses
- Choose Your Own Adventure



# Voice and Choice Strategies



- What questions do you have about voice and choice?
- Are there programs/courses where you're wanting to include it but don't know how?
- How have you incorporated voice and choice into your institutions?



# Reflections & Questions

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# References

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Walkington, C., & Bernacki, M. L. (2014). Motivating students by “personalizing” learning around individual interests: A consideration of theory, design, and implementation issues (Vol. 18). Emerald Group Publishing Ltd. Doi: 10.1108/S0749-742320140000018004

Thank you!

