

Designing Intergenerational Exchange

Some Ideas, Teaching Tips &
Frequently Asked Questions

Some Ideas

- Icebreakers
- Inviting a speaker
- Small group discussions
- Interviewing older adults
- Intergenerational book readings
- Collaborative art projects
- Student presentations
- Team projects

from [AGHE Teaching Brief: Using Intergenerational Exchange in the Classroom to Advance Age Inclusivity](#)

Some Tips



Some Questions

Course Design

- What courses lend themselves to intergenerational instruction?

Classroom Dynamics

- To what extent should older adults' "age-related background" be acknowledged and leveraged in the classroom during discussions about age or history-related issues?
- To what extent is it acceptable to "teach from behind" in managing age-related interactions (e.g., prearrange groups so that they reflect a mixture of students of different ages and experiences)?
- A common "complaint" by younger students is that some older students dominate class discussions while some older students express discomfort about "over-talking" and then hold back—how can these dynamics be managed?

Some

A Lesson Learned



- What course do you teach?
- How could you make your course an intergenerational experience? What intergenerational activities could you do?
- What would you need to do to set up things up?
- What could go wrong?
- What does going right mean to you?
- What will get you to do it?