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COURSE DESIGN WITH STUDENT'S IN MIND: HUMANIZING & CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE SYLLABI DEVELOPMENT

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Humanizing and culturally responsive course design helps to:

- Better meet the needs of underserved and underrepresented learners
- Increase learner persistence and retention
- Create rich, holistic learning environments
- Engage students in dynamic and culturally-relevant ways
- Allow students "voice and choice" in achieving learning objectives

What are the advantages to using a culturally responsive syllabi?

- More opportunities to put in personal material in different ways (video, photos, inspirational quotes)
- Customizable based on the needs of the course
- Embedded relationships with university-wide partners that center the whole student (i.e. DRC, CWC, etc.)
- The development of strong relationship and supports from ID Shops that benefits the instructors course development.

What were some of the potential challenges of the Liquid Syllabi template?

- More design decisions required than needed with the traditional word document.
- Canva platform not as accessible with certain platforms.
- Navigating two platforms in one syllabi (Canva and Canvas).
- Navigating varied student experience, with the new interactivity and look of Canva.

In response to some of the challenges from the Liquid Syllabi template we were able to consider the following revisions:

- Vertical design and collaboration with DRC allowed syllabi to be accessible.
- Template design with both Canva and Canvas Tabs loaded for easier faculty access
- Traditional Syllabus (Microsoft Word or pdf) available for students who want downloadable syllabi.

Additional BONUSES in using a culturally responsive syllabi design:

- Culturally responsive syllabi play two roles: introducing students to your class and centering positive pre-course engagement.
- Through different mediums, real time updates allow instructors to update and enhance syllabi throughout the semester.