

DIVERSITY BINGO

Goal: Kickstart student awareness and discussion of diversity in the classroom. These prompts are not meant to call out or shame anyone, but rather to introduce students to discussions that will impact their work at university. This is traditionally an icebreaker but may be very challenging. Teachers may change prompts they deem unfit on templates.

Time: Varies, depending on class size—roughly 10-25 minutes but allot for extra time to discuss in class if desired or assign questions as journal prompts.

Materials: Bingo sheets (one per student). **NOTE:** Fillable template available on request.

When: This activity may be most useful mid-semester once students know each other.

Instructions:

1. Hand out a bingo sheet to each student.
2. Ask students to locate the “Free Space” box in the center of the card.
3. Have students write a fact about themselves and initial or sign that space as their own.
4. Inform the class that the goal is to fill the entire card, not just a row.
5. Allow students to introduce themselves to their classmates and acquire initials for each of the questions on the sheet.

Follow-up Questions: (may be assigned as journal entries depending on time or preference)

1. Did you find someone who had the same or similar free space?
2. Was it difficult to find people for signatures? More difficult than you expected?
3. Did you find yourself going to specific people, even if you had not previously met them, based on their appearance or other qualities, to obtain signatures? Were they able to provide signatures? How is this tactic problematic?
4. Were you ever surprised at who could give you a signature? Why?
5. Were you really looking at the people who signed your sheet? Were you listening?
6. Can you remember the names of the people you met under a time constraint?
7. Do you think that you stereotyped people to get the most signatures quickly?
8. Did you feel like anyone stereotyped you to obtain a signature?
9. What do your answers to these questions reveal about how you view diversity?

B	I	N	G	O
Speaks more than one language	Is a member of a diversity-oriented group or club	Has lived in more than three states	Has lived outside the U.S. for at least three months	Uses or has used a handicapped parking permit
Does not use binary gender pronouns	Doesn't know where the MOSAIC Office is	Is Catholic	Was born and raised in another country	Celebrates Kwanzaa
Has changed religions	Is taking a class with fewer than 3 people of color	FREE	Practices yoga for spiritual/religious reasons	Is an only child
Is a woman	Has never traveled outside of the United States	Is a single parent	Attended a religious school	Is of Native American heritage
Is biracial or multiracial	Knows what Yom Kippur is	Celebrates a cultural tradition/holiday	Is a man	Has made a pilgrimage

SOURCES:

This variation of bingo was created by UCCS students. However, some source material was taken from outside sources, listed here:

Office of Intercultural Affairs Stonehill College. 2012. *Practicing inclusion: icebreakers and team builders for diversity*. Retreived from <https://studentlife.mit.edu/sites/default/files/Diversity-based%20Teambuilders%20and%20Icebreakers%20from%20Stonehill%20College.pdf>.

Fralick, M. N.D. *Instructor Manual: Appreciating Diversity, Diversity Bingo*. Retrieved from <http://www.collegesuccess1.com/diversitym.htm>