

The Anti-Racist Classroom

Doing the Work: Tips for Moving Forward

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Getting Started

- If you have never before reflected on your own privilege or engaged anti-racist scholarship, spend some time doing so before taking the topic to the classroom.
- The following slide features prompts we encourage you to spend time answering through your own personal writing. By nature, the privilege we possess is hard for us to see and difficult to address, but spending time in honest reflection will help prepare you to facilitate similar reflection among your students.

“True anti-racism training must be ongoing, and it must involve networks to support us in this practice.” ~ Charlie McGeehan

- Know this work will not be easy. Addressing your privilege will often feel uncomfortable. Even if only virtually, join groups that will support you in this process. If you are White, actively reach out to White colleagues and friends to join you in discussion.

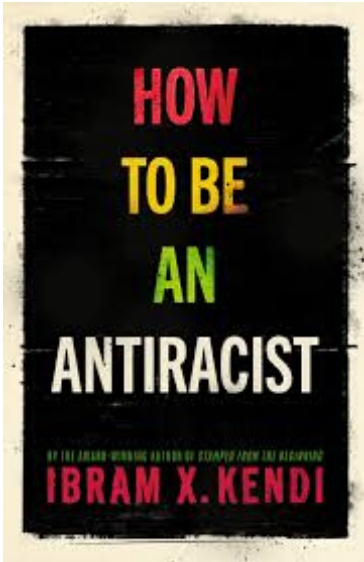
Questions for Reflection

- Do you remember when you first became aware of race? Describe the experience in as much details as you can. How did this newfound awareness affect you? How has your understanding of race changed since then?
- How has your race influenced your educational experience? Think about the teachers and classmates you have known. Consider the topics you have studied and the authors/scholars you have read.
- Even if you are already familiar with them, take time to look up each of the following terms in a trustworthy source (see our next slide for examples). Then, spend time reflecting on how you have seen, experienced, or contributed to this phenomenon in your own life. (This prompt is inspired by Layla Saad's work, which is also featured on the following slide.):

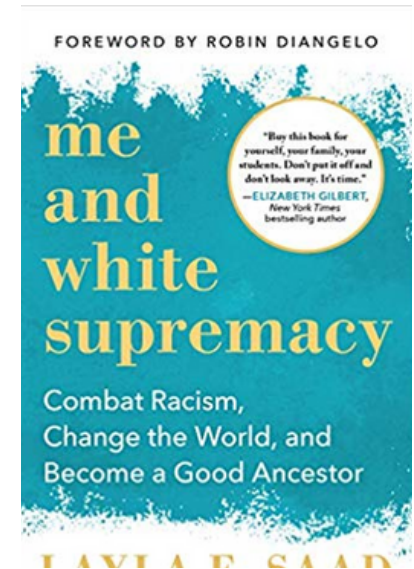


- White Fragility
- White Saviorism
- White Silence

Suggested Resources



- Check out these other great starting points for learning more about anti-racism: Layla F. Saad's *Me and White Supremacy* (2020), Ibram X. Kendi's *How to be an Antiracist* (2019) and Robin DiAngelo's *White Fragility* (2018).



Online resources:

- *Tolerance.org*: from the Southern Poverty Law Center, this site offers Classroom Resources and Professional Development for educators.
- *libguides.usc.edu/antiracistpedagogy*: a variety of resources brought together by the University of Southern California's Libraries and Anti-Racist Pedagogy Organizing Committee.
- *RacialEquityTools.org*: various articles, resources, and a glossary brought to you by several educational and public policy organizations.

What's missing? Let us know in the comments!

A Final Tip

Remember it is OK if you need to work on your own growth before taking the conversation to the classroom. There will be no definitive end to the work of anti-racism, and this is not a race or competition, but for change to occur, everyone must keep moving forward. As you engage in this work, no matter what form it takes, please remember:

Act gracefully, not defensively. When you come across something you take offense to or when someone points out a mistake you've made, take time to step back, listen, and reflect. Remember that privilege, by its very nature, is invisible to those who possess it. Believe others' stories and give yourself time to respond thoughtfully and carefully.

Have you found this semester's Anti-Racist Classroom series helpful? Do you have suggestions for improvement? We'd love to hear from you! Comment below or email us at WritingCenter@uga.edu.