

## Sample Trauma Informed Syllabus Text

### **Trauma-Informed Policies Build Flexibility within Class Structure, Empower Students with Choice.**

—Class Participation Standard Syllabus: I expect all students to be actively and enthusiastically engaged throughout class. I expect you to listen. I expect you to respond. I expect you to be prepared to answer questions I may ask you.

—Revised TI Participation: Please make sure that you find a space to work without distraction, especially when videoconferencing or doing group work. Your success and your classmates' success in this class depends on your active participation in class discussion and in class activities. However, I recognize that there may be days when you do not wish to participate in a particular activity. Each student will get 3 participation pass days. You are still expected to attend class and pay attention, but you may choose not to engage in the activity (i.e. reading paper out loud, working on group blog, participating in poll, break-out session, etc.) for that session. Participation passes do not apply to graded work.

### **How Can TI Pedagogy Ameliorate Students' Traumatic Stress?**

—Standard syllabus Late Assignments: Late assignments or make-up assignments are not permitted in my class. Late work will not be accepted. Failure to produce work on the date it is due will result in a grade of F for that project. E-mailed work will not be accepted. All work must be submitted through Blackboard.

—Revised TI policy. Late assignments disrupt the progress of the entire class. It is important that you meet all deadlines. However, I recognize that there may be times when circumstances may make it difficult for you to meet assignment deadlines. Therefore, each student will have five late assignment days. Let's imagine that you are working on a paper, you have not finished the final draft, and you are unexpectedly called into work for the entire weekend. The paper is due on Monday at 9:00 AM. You might need the extra day to catch up. You can choose to use one of your days to turn the project in on Tuesday at 9:00 AM or two to turn the project in on Wednesday at 9:00 AM. Your clock starts at the time the assignment is due. You do not incur a penalty for using late assignment days. However, I suggest you try hard not to use them for your own sake. Not meeting deadlines can feel disorienting and set you back. Once you have used your five late assignment days, you will incur a penalty of a dropped grade for each day an assignment is late.