



Eight Guiding Principles for CLIPs™

1. Conduct inquiry that enhances student learning and success.
Conduct inquiry in ways that focus on and build what is valuable and meaningful for student learning and success.
2. Ask questions that matter.
Ask questions about issues related to student learning and success that you, students, and others truly care about. Use questions throughout the inquiry that lead to deep levels of understanding about valued and meaningful issues.
3. Create a safe, hospitable, engaging environment.
Create an environment where people with differing perspectives feel physically and emotionally safe and where they can trust, care about, and welcome one another. Familiar, regular events that are paced to avoid overload help people feel comfortable. New ideas stimulate interest. Combining the familiar with the new and pacing the inquiry to avoid overload keep people engaged.
4. Encourage and appreciate each person's unique contribution.
Encourage everyone to contribute in ways that express each person's uniqueness and specific circumstances. Bring life to the community by appreciating the special talents each brings to the community.
5. Build relationships that rejuvenate professional practice.
Build relationships within the CLIP and with others around inquiry generates and spreads creative ideas. It is the basis for renewal and innovation in professional practice to keep pace with changing social conditions, knowledge, and student populations.
6. Create authentic, open-minded dialogue that brings out diverse perspectives.
Suspend your assumptions. Be open to the unexpected. Involve people who come from different cultural backgrounds and roles (e.g., students, community members, faculty, administrators). Provide opportunities for people to genuinely express their points of view and be heard by those with other perspectives.
7. Engage in individual and collective reflection.
Reflection evokes deeper insights. By engaging in individual and collective reflective listening, observing, and thinking, you can see emerging patterns and connections.
8. Generate sustained, inquiry-based practice.
Meaningful, ongoing inquiry-based practices that benefit students. Most issues addressed through a CLIP inquiry require continued attention over a fairly long period of time.