# ExpectationsClass Expectations Learning Cell/ Contract

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**Learning objectives/skills fostered:**

Students identify what they expect from the instructor and what they think the instructor expects from them. Skills fostered include critical thinking, interpersonal, and orientation toward good citizenship through fair-mindedness inquiry

**How/why is this a culturally relevant teaching practice or high impact teaching practice?**

This activity fosters validation, liberation, and empowerment of students. It is aligned with 3 of the High Operational Practices of the Pedagogy of Confidence by (2) building relationships, (6) situating learning in the lives of students, and (7) amplifying student voice.

**Learning challenge addressed:**

It benefits students to actively participate and engage each other as well as the instructor in the classroom.

**Context best used for:**

First day of class (40-50 students)

**Materials needed:**

Pen and paper, screen, LCD, laptop or smart classroom

**What to do/ how to do it:**

Convene students in groups of 4 or 5. Have the groups develop a list of what they expect from their instructor and a list of what they think the instructor expects of them. This is done in bullet point format.

Once the initial list is completed, students will pair-share with another group that is now merged (i.e. group of 8-10). The merged groups now synthesize their responses. Once this task is completed, the instructor asks each group to provide responses that the instructor will type on the screen. The students and the instructor will go through the lists and condense in order to develop a class expectations contract for the instructor and the students.

**Tips for successfully implementing:**

Lure effort of students and embolden them constantly. Build positive relationships at every opportunity. Encourage participation. Affirm all responses.

**Evidence, more information, citation, website, videos:**

# Reduces absenteeism/ invisibility; Promotes active engagement

Jackson, Y. (2011). *The pedagogy of confidence: Inspiring high intellectual performance in urban schools*. New York: Teachers College Press.

