



2013 Hawaii University International Conferences
Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences
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Engagement: Starts the first day and never ends

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The importance of the first day of class is to set the tone for the entire semester. It is the opportunity to create an atmosphere to engage students in the classroom and course content, feel a sense of belonging, get to know their peers, and form bonds of trust between class members and faculty. The importance of the last day of class sends students onto their next academic experience feeling good about their accomplishments and the content of the class so that they will share their feelings about the course with others and carry that feeling into subsequent courses. This session provides opportunities for participants to share and generate ideas on how to build opportunities to engage students on the first and last days of class.

Using their own teaching experiences participants will share with each other what has worked in creating an atmosphere of engagement, trust, and belonging on the first and last days of a course. Facilitators will use a list of questions and visual aids (such as relevant videos and Power Point) to facilitate small and large group discussions during the roundtable session to further brainstorm ideas for class activities and discussions. Group questions based on Chickering and Gamson's "Seven Principles for Good Practice in Undergraduate Education" and Pascarella and Terenzini's work on student engagement will be used.