

Teach me better

Gender inclusive classroom

O. Kavatsyuk, A. Ostaf, L. Avraamidou, E.E. Dryden Silva, J.A. Jacukowicz,
 M. Ioannou, M. Pokerznic, and A.M. Punter

Girls are proven to be as good as boys in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM), however, significantly less girls than boys opt for STEM profiles and studies in high-schools and universities. In this poster we give some easy to implement suggestions for university teachers how to improve their courses. These suggestions were made and collected by students.



**Inclusive classroom...
 How?
 What can I do?**

Encourage and praise your students.

"I appreciate/love when my teacher encourages me. It makes me believe that "I can"! "

It is good to directly acknowledge students' good work, praise a student's success or potential success. Examples would be expressions like

- "Good job!"
- "That's a brilliant idea!"
- "You have made a great contribution!"



Be a role model. Share your experience.

"I think a teacher is like the closest thing to a role model. Having them talk more about their background, and how they pursued a career in the STEM field makes me relate more to my teacher."

Be a role model. Tell about yourself and your way in science (including difficulties and successes).

Teach with enthusiasm and excitement!

"When the class instructor teaches the course with enthusiasm and excitement it really boosts my interest and willingness to participate in the course."



Real world problems. Importance for society.

"As a girl, I am very interested in the social implications of STEM topics. Hence, I find it very engaging when we are presented with different learning activities that are directly connected to real world problems. Also group work is something I really enjoy in my class because it makes studying more efficient and interactive."



Create a safe atmosphere.

"It was very good, because you could ask a bunch of questions."

Create a safe atmosphere in your classroom. Encourage students to trying to solve problems, even if they do not get the correct answer. Let your students know: they are here to learn and you are here to support them.



Remove gender bias from learning materials.

Check the book you use in your course, problems and your slides. Are they gender biased? Are scientists you mention both women and men? Would problems be interesting for all students?

Real examples of women in science.

"Teachers could use real examples in history of women achieving progress in the scientific community. For example, teaching about Grace Hooper and the first "debugging" of a computer while teaching how to debug a software."

