

PACKING ACTION: ELIMINATING THE CLICHÉ



Victoria C. Berger
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CLICHÉS IN THE CLASSROOM



- Think outside of the box
- Cutting edge
- Win-win
- The bottom line is...

The Problems

CLICHÉS IN THE CLASSROOM

- Judgements in the classroom
 - Verbal and nonverbal
 - By professor and/or peers
- Classrooms with constricting environments:
 - Inhibit growth/development

CLICHÉS IN BUSINESS VOCABULARY

- Harder to be clear and concise
- Lose originality, impact, and meaning in words

The Blindfolded Classroom

OBJECTIVES:

- To encourage students to defy trained practices of learning through interrupting, calling out, arguing, and leading discussions
- To draw attention to the subconscious clichés in students' vocabularies
- To create a judgement-free zone when discussing taboo topics



Creating the Environment

- Actual blindfolds distributed
- Professor starts controversial discussion
 - Possible topics can include:
 - How transparent do businesses need to be in their communication?
 - Surveillance and privacy – how far is too far?
 - Accounting practice ethics
 - Journalism ethics: does fake news exist?
- Students freely talk
 - Interrupting each other, shouting over each other, etc is *encouraged*
- Every time a student uses a cliché in his/her vocabulary, he/she takes the blindfold off
 - Being blindfolded isn't always a good thing
 - Although it will create a more comfortable environment at first, it is important to see each speakers' differences
 - Ultimately, these differences are positive and should be celebrated, not ignored

Plea to Professors Everywhere...



Thank you to Jared Bishop, my Communications professor, for inspiring me to “get messy” and defy the clichés in life