

## Ground Rules for Dialogues

In order for us to have a productive conversation, it is important that everyone participates and we set a few ground rules that will help us create a respectful learning environment where each of us **G.R.O.W.S** in our knowledge about diversity.

### ***G-Gain understanding***

- clarify your understanding with questions
- take responsibility for your own learning

### ***R- Respect***

- respect that there are different viewpoints and that everyone has something important to contribute
- confidentiality; what is said here stays here, what's learned here leaves here

### ***O- Openness***

- be open to exploring new ideas
- "I will not harm you and you will not harm me" or **ahimsa** (*uh-HIM-sah*)

### ***W-Watch non-verbals***

- use your active listening skills

### ***S- Speak from your own experience***

- use "I" and "me" statements instead of "they", "we", and "you"

## Key Terms:

1. **Diversity: Individual differences** (e.g., personality, learning styles, and life experiences) and **group differences** (e.g., race/ethnicity, class, gender, sexual orientation, country of origin, and ability as well as cultural, political, religious, or other affiliations) that can impact the college student experience both inside and outside of the classroom.

2. **Cultural identity:** Primarily **group identities**, aspects of ourselves where we belong to a particular group in terms of categories like race, ethnicity, social class, sex, gender, ability status, sexual orientation national origin, religious / faith background, and others. Cultural identities are shaped by common history, shared experiences, legal and historical decisions, and day-to-day interactions of these groups.