THE 6 TIPS FOR A STRONG TEACHING AND LEARNING EXPERIENCE

1. RADIATE PURPOSE IN COURSE CONSTRUCTION
   - Ask a peer to review your syllabus, assignments, and Canvas page for clarity, organization, and purpose.
   - Create a consistent class routine to help students be more organized and experience less stress. 
     For example: Mondays: introduce content, Wednesdays/Fridays: discussion & activities, Sunday: assignments due
   - Hide unneeded or duplicate tabs in Canvas and organize everything under modules.

2. BUILD A STRONG COMMUNITY
   - Humanize your course: talk about the structure of the week, goals for an assignment, or why you are interested in the subject matter.
   - Build community with and among your students through introduction videos on Canvas, have students break out into pairs or small groups for discussions, and start class by inviting students to share their voice and thoughts.

3. CREATE AN INCLUSIVE CLASSROOM COMMUNITY
   - Intentionally incorporate content from diverse authors and perspectives.
   - Encourage diversity of thought and dialogue among differences by inviting students to provide an alternative perspective and modeling this yourself.
   - Use student friendly language by avoiding jargon, like KSFB book, and explain acronyms and new terms.
     See the Glossary of Terms.
     Explore additional ways to make your teaching more inclusive here.

4. FOCUS ON STUDENT SUCCESS STRATEGIES
   - Break down complex tasks, scaffold learning activities, and provide timely feedback.
   - Connect to and encourage students individually through email and “student office hours.”
   - Share campus resources at strategic times during the semester.
     For example: connect with the Tutoring Center before an exam or the Writing Center before a paper is due.

5. SURFACE LEARNING THAT HAPPENS IN THE MOMENT
   - Acknowledge uncomfortable statements, such as “I was abused by a parent,” said in class publicly and do a wellness check with the student privately.
   - Keep a pulse on what is going on in your students’ lives, be it on campus or around the nation, and provide time and space for student dialogue.

6. SHARE ENTHUSIASM & PURPOSE - REMIND STUDENTS WHY IT ALL MATTERS
   - Let your passion for your discipline or teaching show!
   - Tell students why you chose a specific text, the purpose of an assignment, and how their learning connects to their everyday experiences.
     Learn more about Trickle Down Engagement with Don Saucier here.