



Regis College

Pronouns in the Classroom

At first introduction, pronouns can seem like a confusing topic. Becoming accustomed to thinking actively and inclusively about pronouns requires practice, but respecting someone's gender identity is important in creating a welcoming and safe environment for transgender, non-binary, and gender nonconforming individuals. This resource is meant to guide professors through pronoun use in the classroom.

Why use pronouns in the classroom?

- ✓ Signals to trans and gender nonconforming students that you know they exist and care about their experience of the classroom
- ✓ Misgendering students in the classroom often leads to stress, checking out of material, and potentially dropping a class
- ✓ Sparks proactive thought of gender identity by intentionally including pronouns as a part of classroom guidelines

Pronoun Best Practices:

- ✓ Ask students to share pronouns in first day introductions, along with names, and share yours as well
 - “Let's all share names, pronouns you use (whether it's she/her/hers, they/them/theirs, he/him/his, your name), so we can all make sure to address each other correctly throughout the class. If you don't want to share your pronouns, that's fine too.
- ✓ Consider including your pronouns in your email signatures
- ✓ If reading non-binary and trans authors in class, research their pronouns and gender correctly