

# Teaching Emotional or Controversial Topics

Fall 2022

**Tuesday, October 4**  
**11:30 am–12:45 pm**  
**Online Event**

Students come to our classes with a range of backgrounds, life experiences, ideologies, motivations, and aspirations. While this diverse student make-up has the potential for rich class discussions, it can also make both students and instructors nervous to approach difficult and potentially controversial topics. In this workshop, Tiarra Cooper, from the University of Massachusetts Amherst, will discuss preparing students for challenging conversations by introducing “whole brain living,” establishing trust and setting boundaries by way of community building, and cultivating skills that can be used to defuse a situation.

This event is sponsored by OFDAS Center for Teaching Excellence (CTE).

PRESENTER

**Tiarra Cooper**  
University of Massachusetts Amherst

**OFDAS Center for  
Teaching Excellence (CTE)**

We strive to host inclusive and accessible presentations. Live captioning will be provided. If our presenters agree, we will distribute their slides one day in advance and share a link to the event recording. To request additional accommodations, please email us before the event. Mahalo!

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**Register Online**  
[www.ofdas.hawaii.edu/events](http://www.ofdas.hawaii.edu/events)