Cultural Diversity in postsecondary education has expanded over the past two decades creating a need for colleges and universities to reassess traditional instructional strategies to better meet the needs of students. Culture impacts human behavior including thought, communication, language, beliefs, values, customs, courtesies, rituals, roles, relationships and expected behaviors.

While there is increasing attention at many universities to some kinds of cultural diversity, disability as a cultural identity is often overlooked. Students with disabilities may be oppressed by social views of their culture and of their disability. Other areas of diversity to consider are sexual orientation, gender, socio-economic status, military service, and age.

**Fast facts related to diversity in the classroom**
- Students of minority status: 35.35%
- Students reporting a disability: 11.3%
- Students attending part-time: 45.3%
- Students ages 25-34: 21.5%
- Students over the age of 34: 18.4%

**Suggestions for improving classroom practices**
- Use Universal Design for Learning (UDL) techniques.
- Be open to different points of view and different ways of learning.
- Recognize that your cultural orientation may be different from that of your students.