

## Engaging Undergraduates as Activist Allies in the New View Campaign

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In this workshop participants will share teaching strategies to promote undergraduate understanding of medicalization and its intersectionality with other complex phenomena, including racism, classism, heterosexism, and sexism/genderism. As teachers of undergraduates, we recognize that it is no easy task to help students move beyond simply having heard of these terms to developing an awareness of how these processes impact their own life and the lives of others. While it is challenging for any of us to deconstruct and analyze the cultural practices that we engage in, undergraduates are certainly less practiced in doing so, and many, in beginning classes, seem puzzled about the need to do so. We must be facile in providing opportunities for undergraduates to begin to question their participation in cultural practices that can discriminate against others or may result in their “choosing” to participate in behavior that may negatively impact their own self-care. Otherwise, we run the risk of promoting defensiveness and actually thwarting the development of an analytical perspective. Without being able to recognize, in practical and personal terms, that these cultural practices exist, it is unlikely that our undergraduates can be enlisted as activist allies to critique, resist, and transform them.

The larger goal of this workshop is to begin to collect best practices/classroom activities for helping undergraduates learn about medicalization, and other related “-isms” and concepts, such as body literacy. These can be shared, and continuously solicited, on the New View website and those of sister organizations.

### 50 word brief for program:

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