

## Question cards

**Red theme: The students' statements about the good semester start and what matters to make them feel at home.**

The students like it when educators *put themselves into play* when meeting the students.

To what extent do you open up to students? If possible give specific examples. Do you experience barriers associated with this? If so, which ones?

Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of *putting yourself in play*.

The students feel more at home when their educators see, hear and acknowledge them.

How do you see and acknowledge the students and what does it require of you?

The students say that the atmosphere in the room means a lot to their experience of feeling at home. When the students small talk, giggle or make faint smiles to each other in the classroom, it is their way of nurturing the mood of the class because the students experience silence as awkward.

What do you think of this?

How do you navigate in the room when small talk among students become a disruptive element?

The students express that social relations are their own responsibility.

The relationship with educators does not matter as much as the relationship between the students. The students also say that group work can both promote and inhibit social relations, as group work can feel safe and unsafe.

What do you think about this and why?

The students agree that the beginning of the semester is hard, anxiety-provoking, unsafe, awkward and special. The students can feel lonely and alone until roles and relationships are established in a class.

How does it make you feel when you hear this?

How can you use this knowledge in your future meeting with new students?

**Blue theme: educators' statements about the good semester start and what matters to make them feel at home.**

Educators show personal sides of themselves in the meeting with the students. They think it's okay to show that you're a human being using yourself. For example, by leading a culture of error and emphasizing your own imperfection, by making fun of oneself or by pointing to similarities between students and oneself.

Which experiences have you gained, and is this something you as an educator consider?

In the beginning of the new semester, educators feel particularly "on" and make a special effort. For example, educators make an effort to remember the students' names, staying with the students during the break, protecting particularly vulnerable students, be particularly listening and appreciative, and apply humor deliberately in relations development.

How do you make an effort to make all students feel welcome and at home?

Which atmosphere would you like to evoke at the beginning of the semester?

How can this atmosphere be simulated by the interior design, activities and artifacts of the room, etc.?

**Green theme: educators' emotions and defense mechanisms.**

Educators can feel doubt, vulnerability, loneliness and insecurity both before and during the meeting with the students. It can be hard, transgressive, and require courage. On the other hand, it can be exciting, fun, safe and professionally challenging.

Are you surprised when you hear this? Why, why not?

How can educators care for themselves and each other in the meeting with new students?

An educator meets a class for the first time. The students whisper around the room, express incomprehension and seem demotivated. You hear your name being mentioned peripherally.

Which emotions does this example recall in you right now?

Does it matter to you what students think of you and can you feel exposed in the meeting with students?

Educators can feel unfamiliar and like a guest in the classroom.

Can you get butterflies in your stomach, and get nervous prior to meeting with new students?

As an educator, you can find yourself as a host in the subject of teaching and at the same time as a guest in the social relationship with the students. The role of the host is expressed in a need to appear professional, with control over everything from electronics to the academic content of the teaching. The role of the guest is expressed by the way you are physically present in the room, for example through handshakes, eye contact and smiles.

Do you perceive yourself more as a host or a guest?