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# How Do We Improve Interactions with Students on the Autism Spectrum?

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# Understanding the Autism Spectrum

**Zaire Whaley**  
**Dr. Jason Diaz**

**Stand up if:**

**1. You know someone on  
the spectrum**

**2. You aware of the  
spectrum**



# Group Discussion

Discuss what you know about the Autism Spectrum.

Write any questions you might have on your notecard.

**What is  
Autism?**



**My personal experience of  
having autism.**

# SCENARIO 1

**A student on the spectrum is trying to figure out how to get from one class to another without getting lost. How would you help this student?**

# SCENARIO 2

You're a student working on a group project with a classmate on the spectrum. Your classmate is uncomfortable working in a group and prefers to work alone. What are some strategies for working with your classmates to make sure everyone is working equally and are involved in the project?



# SCENARIO 3

You are a professor and have a student who is on the spectrum. The student is trying to keep up with taking notes, studying, etc. but is quickly overwhelmed with how many things need to get done and is having a lot of difficulties prioritizing and keeping up with the work. What can I do as their professor to help them succeed in class?

# Group Discussion

Discuss strategies for better communication and collaboration with people on the spectrum.

# STRATEGIES

- Provide strategies in an accessible manner to faculty, staff, etc
- Identifying students? Invite students to talk with faculty one on one
- Connect faculty to resources, especially networks of adults and professionals on the spectrum. Being seen is important!
- Use social media to find communities and learn from them

# RESOURCES

- LADDER ([www.lasalle.edu/autism-ladder-center/](http://www.lasalle.edu/autism-ladder-center/))
- Autistic Self-Advocacy Network (<https://autisticadvocacy.org/>)
- The Center for Autism ([www.thecenterforautism.org/](http://www.thecenterforautism.org/))
- Autism Speaks ([www.autismspeaks.org/](http://www.autismspeaks.org/))
- Autism Speaks Walk - Philadelphia (10/19/19 -Citizen Bank Park)

**ANY ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS?**

**RAFFLE TIME !!!!!!!!!!!!!**