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Teaching to Inspire in Challenging Times

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This panel explores different strategies and experiences to guide and inspire us in the classroom as teachers. The study of International Relations has always involved addressing difficult topics and concepts. However, what is new is a kind of universal trauma and anxiety that both educators and students bring to the classroom due to our experiences of the global pandemic and the potential destruction of the planet due to climate change. Moreover, public debates about culture are reshaping (or revealing) narratives around identity and values that can be unsettling. How, with such challenges, can we contribute to making learning about a world that seems to be falling apart inspiring? What can we learn from traditional teaching methods and what new technological tools can we bring into the classroom? How can popular culture help to address difficult topics in our learning? How can we approach controversial tactics in the classroom? And how do we encourage our students to confront difficult questions that could ask them to question their positionally in the world?

Track Classification: Learning and Teaching Working Group