STRATEGY: “I DON’T CARE WHAT YOU THINK, I CARE HOW YOU THINK:
FACILITATING DIALOGUE ON DIFFICULT ISSUES.” Five strategies for generating a comfortable,
respectful, and structured classroom environment in which through multiple forms of
learning and discussion

CLASS(ES) AND CLASS(ES) SIZE WHERE UTILIZED SUCCESSFULLY: Pols 115:
Introduction to American Government (100-230 students); Pols 305 & 306: Constitutional
Law and Civil Rights and Civil Liberties (40 students); Pols 393: Minority Voting Rights and
Representation (24 students); Pols 536: Administrative Law (20 students); Pols 539: Public
Personnel Administration (20 students)

STRATEGY’S APPLICABILITY: WHAT KINDS OF STUDENTS (FRESHMEN/
MAJORS/ GRADS, ETC.), COURSES, LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS, ETC.? All
students, from first-year students to graduate students, with an emphasis on guiding students
new to engaging with “difficult” and/or “controversial” topics

ABSTRACT OR SYNOPSIS OF STRATEGY YOU ARE SUBMITTING: The five
strategies I am submitting for facilitating dialogue involve creating a comfortable, respectful,
and structured classroom environment in which through multiple forms of learning and
discussion, students are asked to become well-informed and articulate their arguments based
on evidence and appropriate modes of thought and discourse.