



# Mosaic

Indiana University's Active Learning Initiative



## Higher Ed Learning Spaces: Thinking About the Whole Campus

Rum för Lärande, Spaces for Learning, November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Tracey Birdwell, Program Director – Mosaic Initiative

[mosaic.iu.edu](https://mosaic.iu.edu)



# Mosaic

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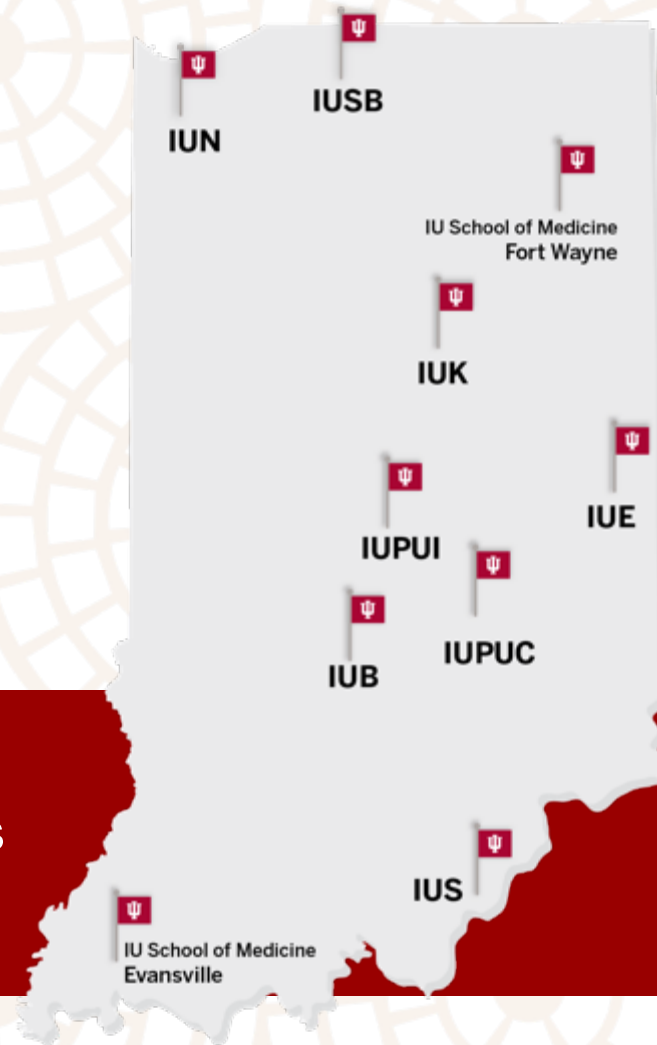




# 900+

TOTAL CLASSROOMS

~20% Active Learning Classrooms  
(Mosaic Classrooms)







Mosaic classrooms represent a rich variety of learning spaces that meet widely varying instructional needs—much like the unique tiles that comprise a mosaic.



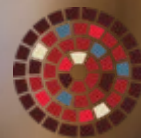
Indiana University launched the Mosaic Initiative in 2015





# Mosaic Fellows Program

- Teach in Mosaic classrooms
- Share experience with broader university community
- Engage in research
- Inform classroom design





Pedagogy

**VS**

Classroom Space



# **From Learning Spaces to Learning Environments**



# Mosaic Fellows, now with three choices!

- Active learning in Hybrid Learning Environments
- Active Learning in Online Environments
- Active Learning in Inclusive and Accessible Environments



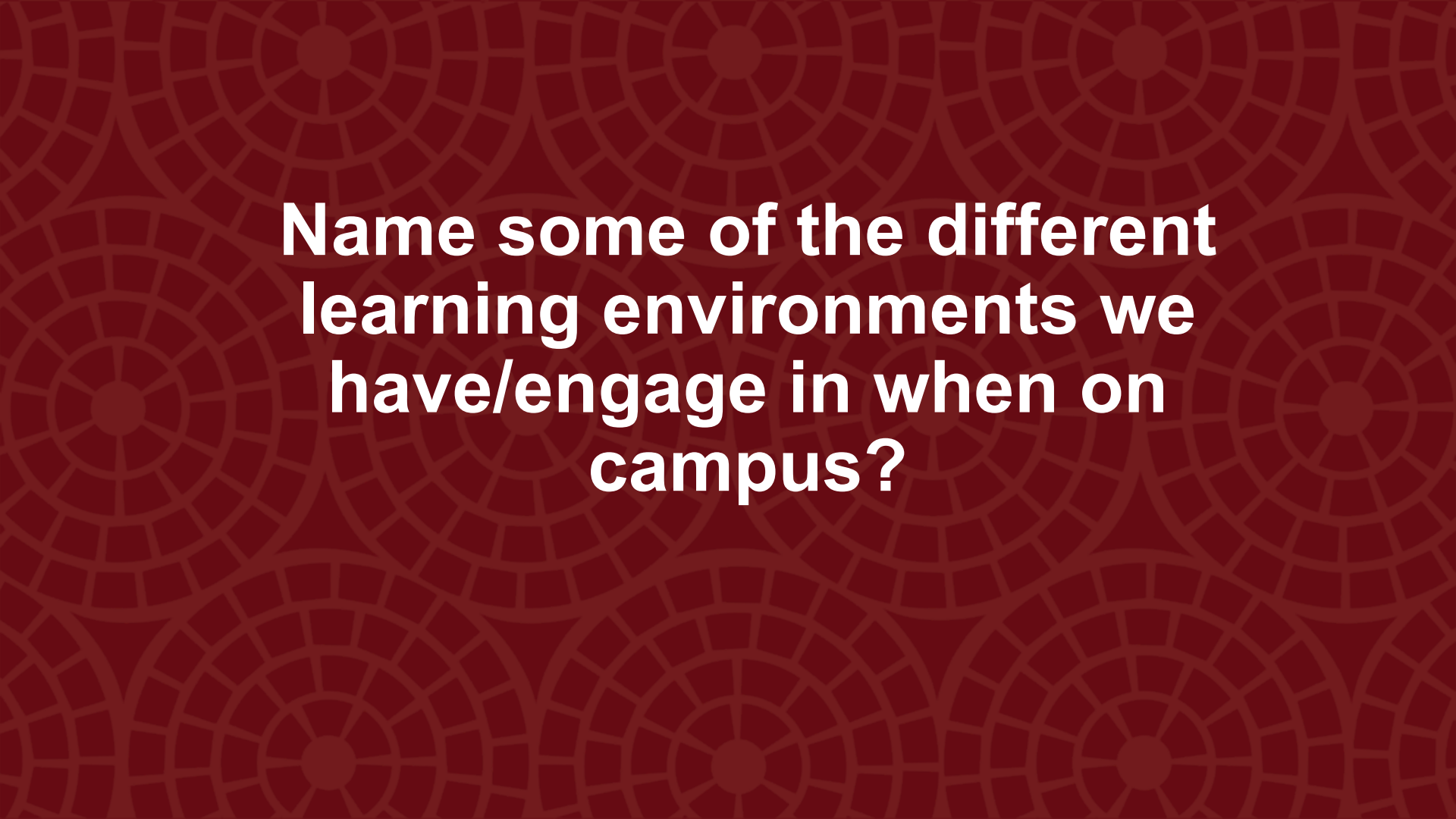
**My burning questions:**

**How do we rethink all of our  
learning environments?**



**How do we think about all of  
our learning environments  
more holistically?**





**Name some of the different  
learning environments we  
have/engage in when on  
campus?**



# Outdoor learning spaces can help us to:

- Rethink our evolving learning spaces landscape
- Consider future issues for our campuses













UNIVERSITY  
OF WOLLONGONG  
AUSTRALIA







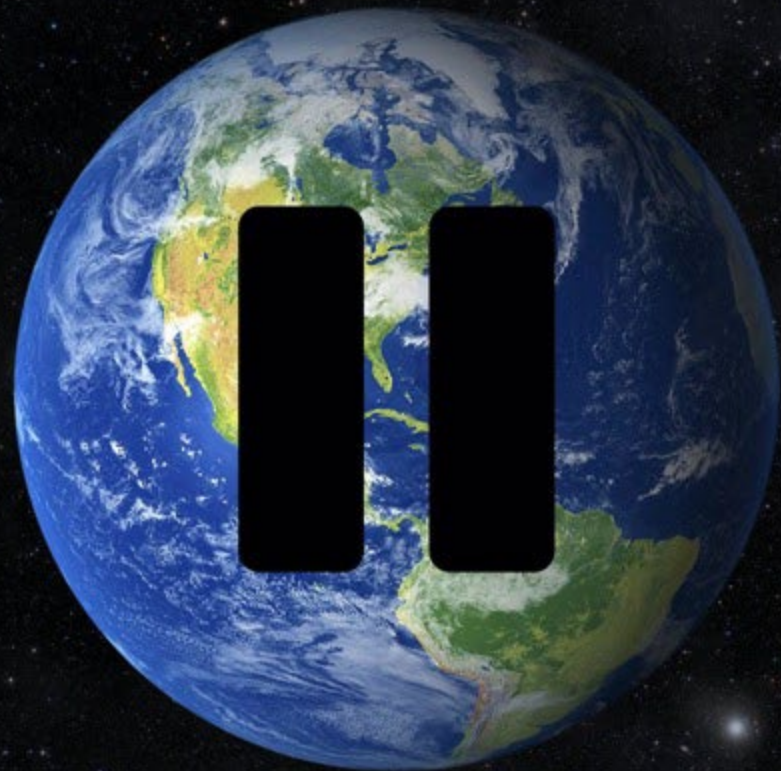




 Tulane  
University









## Outdoor classes hold promise for in-person learning amid COVID-19

Published: August 21, 2020 8.37am EDT



### Authors



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# Building outdoor classrooms to mitigate the risk:

- **Rice University** – Temporary, open-air buildings with electricity/A/C
- **Amherst College** – Tents with electricity and heat
- **Eckerd College** – GIS technology to map and visualize viable outdoor spaces, focusing on weather conditions



UNIVERSITY OF  
NOTRE DAME





# Trends:

- Identifying locations
- Advertising spaces
- Scheduling (some) spaces
- Consideration of weather
- Embracing nature to “unplug”
- Supporting educational technologies standard to indoor classrooms



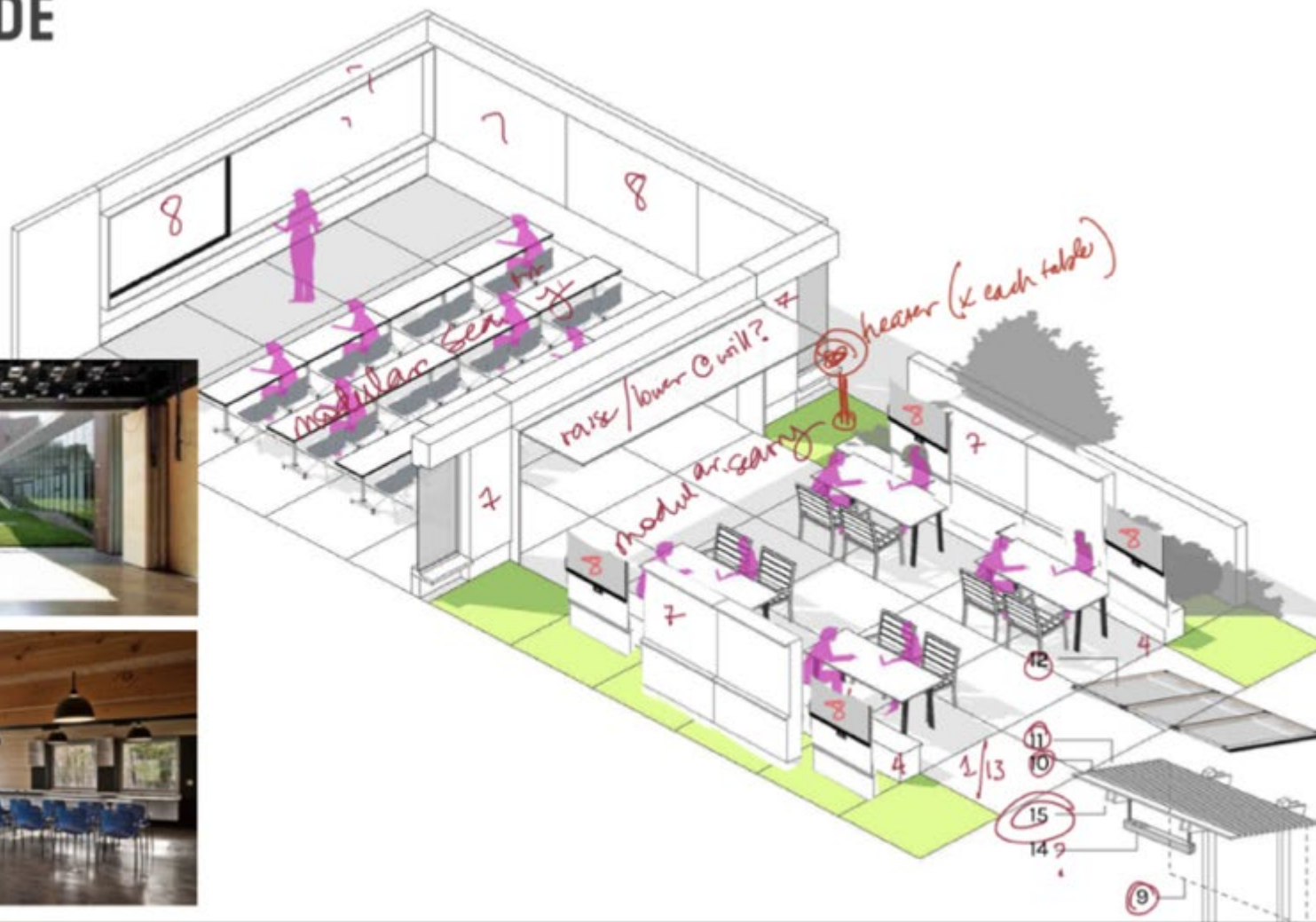
# **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Mosaic Initiative Design Symposium**

## **Outdoor Learning Spaces**



# INSIDE-OUTSIDE

## FORMAL LEARNING



# Outdoor Classrooms for Small Cap Writing-Based Classes

## Miranda Rodak



Seats 24 – 30 students

### Technology:

- Screens for projection connected to an instructor's iPad; Solstice app allows students to cast
- Chalkboard/whiteboards can be lowered from ceiling or on wheels
- Each table has power strips

### Furniture:

- Group-centered tables
- Moveable benches or chairs (esp. allowing for students with wheel chairs to access the tables)

### Parts:

- 1 & 13 floor (heated?)
- 14 heated overhead
- Fabric or other type flexible walls
- Moveable benches or chairs (esp. allowing for students with wheel chairs to access the tables)

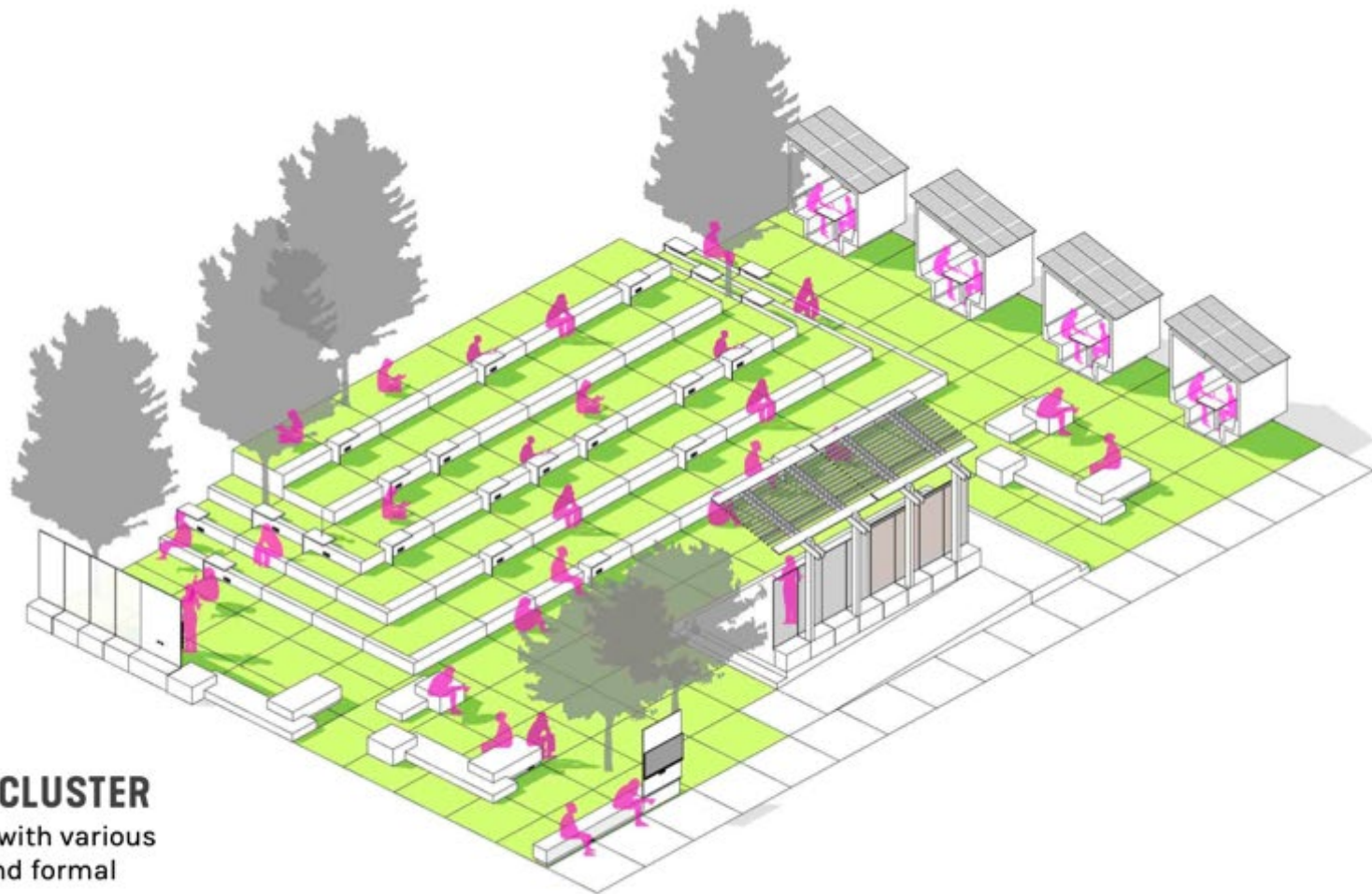


# Takeaways from the faculty:

- They liked the option to take students outside
- Accessibility concerns
- Noise/ weather
- Familiar classroom technology vs. a “stripped down” experience
- Privacy vs visibility of discipline
- Happy to have the conversation



# CLUSTERS



## AGORA / SUPER-CLUSTER

Mix large scale/event with various  
'breakout', informal and formal



# Outdoor learning spaces can help us to:

- Rethink our evolving learning spaces landscape
- Consider future issues for our campuses
  - Revenue
  - Flexibility to address health or climate related issues
  - Take lessons learned in Outdoor spaces and bring them indoors



# Outdoor learning spaces can help us to:

- Expand our offerings for student experiences
- Rethink our evolving learning spaces landscape – We have physical campuses, we have digital spaces, perhaps the outdoors can support both.... Perhaps it can add a third space more than just in between
- Consider future issues for our campuses -

# Outdoor learning spaces can help us to:

- Expand our offerings for student experiences
- Rethink our evolving learning spaces landscape
- Consider future issues for our campuses





Online  
Experience

**VS**

On Campus  
Experience

# Office as classroom:

Figure 1. Seth Frei Lectures from the Teaching Space of Tomorrow



*Credit: Texas State University*



# Choice as classroom:



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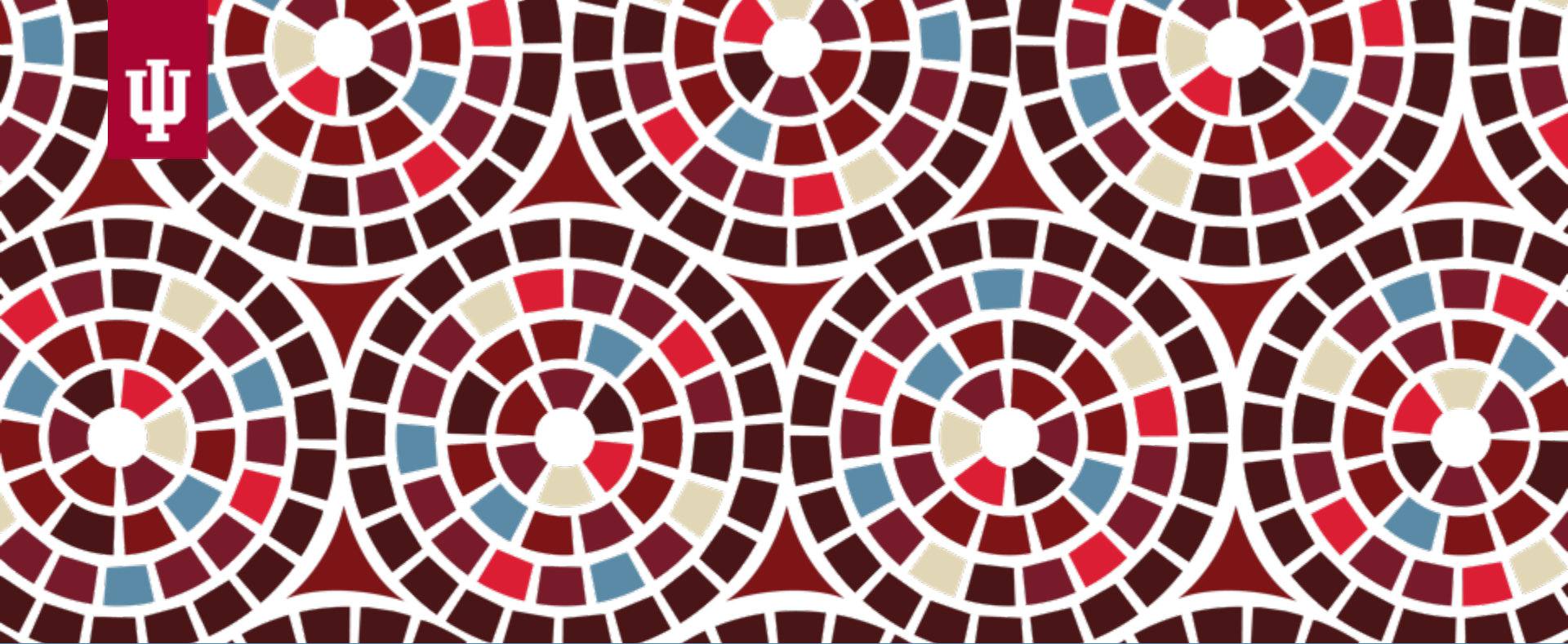


# Your suggestion as classroom:

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