ISAI: International Student Academic Integration
Support for Teaching in Increasingly Globally Diverse Classes

“You are teaching in intercultural classrooms regardless of whether you want to, or are aware of it, whether you think it is your responsibility or relevant to your discipline. Human diversity is present in and impacts every classroom, regardless of whether it is visible and whether it is solicited.”
(Lee, Poch, O’Brien, Solheim 2017. Teaching Interculturally, p. 15)

ISAI offers professional development for undergraduate faculty who want to promote interactions among international and domestic students
• 1-1 customized consultations, ongoing coaching, and an ISAI Teaching Fellows cohort option
• ISAI is a resource for all undergraduate faculty and instructors on the UMTC campus
• We support courses in every discipline

ISAI focuses on designing and facilitating student interactions
• Interactions occur in every classroom and take many forms – from informal collaboration, to quick pair-share, to structured group work, to class discussions
• Research establishes that interactions impact students’ learning, their sense of belonging, their academic performance, and their intercultural development
• Designing and facilitating quality interactions in support of your course objectives and students’ intercultural development is complex and familiarity with evidence-based strategies is valuable

ISAI has helped undergraduate faculty and programs to:
• Implement GTA training to support intercultural interactions and group work
• Review curriculum to identify priorities and opportunities to improve integration of domestic and international students
• Design assignments and assessment to promote quality group work, dynamics, and outcomes
• Implement effective scaffolding to improve accessibility, inclusion, and engagement

Who is ISAI?
• ISAI was developed by Professor Amy Lee and Dr. Ann Smith; and is offered in partnership between the Global Programs and Strategy Alliance and the Center for Educational Innovation.
• Funded by the International Student Academic Services Fee

To Get Started: Contact Dr. Ann Smith at annsmith@umn.edu.