

E100 Special Topics: Effective and Enduring Advocacy: Leading with Compassion in STEM
2-0-4 (6 credits)

This course aims to guide STEM students in becoming effective advocates, leveraging their unique training in understanding complex systems and problem-solving. Grounded in critical pedagogy, students will explore their unique strengths, foster critical consciousness, and better understand their potential to shape the world. Through group discussions, self-reflection, and engaging dialogues with guest speakers, students will develop essential communication skills and compassionate behaviors that promote successful advocacy. Main assignments include a multimedia midpoint reflection, a final presentation, and a written reflection, providing practical tools for navigating the intersection of advocacy and STEM. This pilot course is part of a parallel research study, and students will have the opportunity to participate in the program evaluation which will influence future iterations of this course at Caltech and beyond.