

LET'S GO TO THE BOARD!
IDEAS FOR ACTIVE LEARNING IN THE (PHILOSOPHY)
CLASSROOM



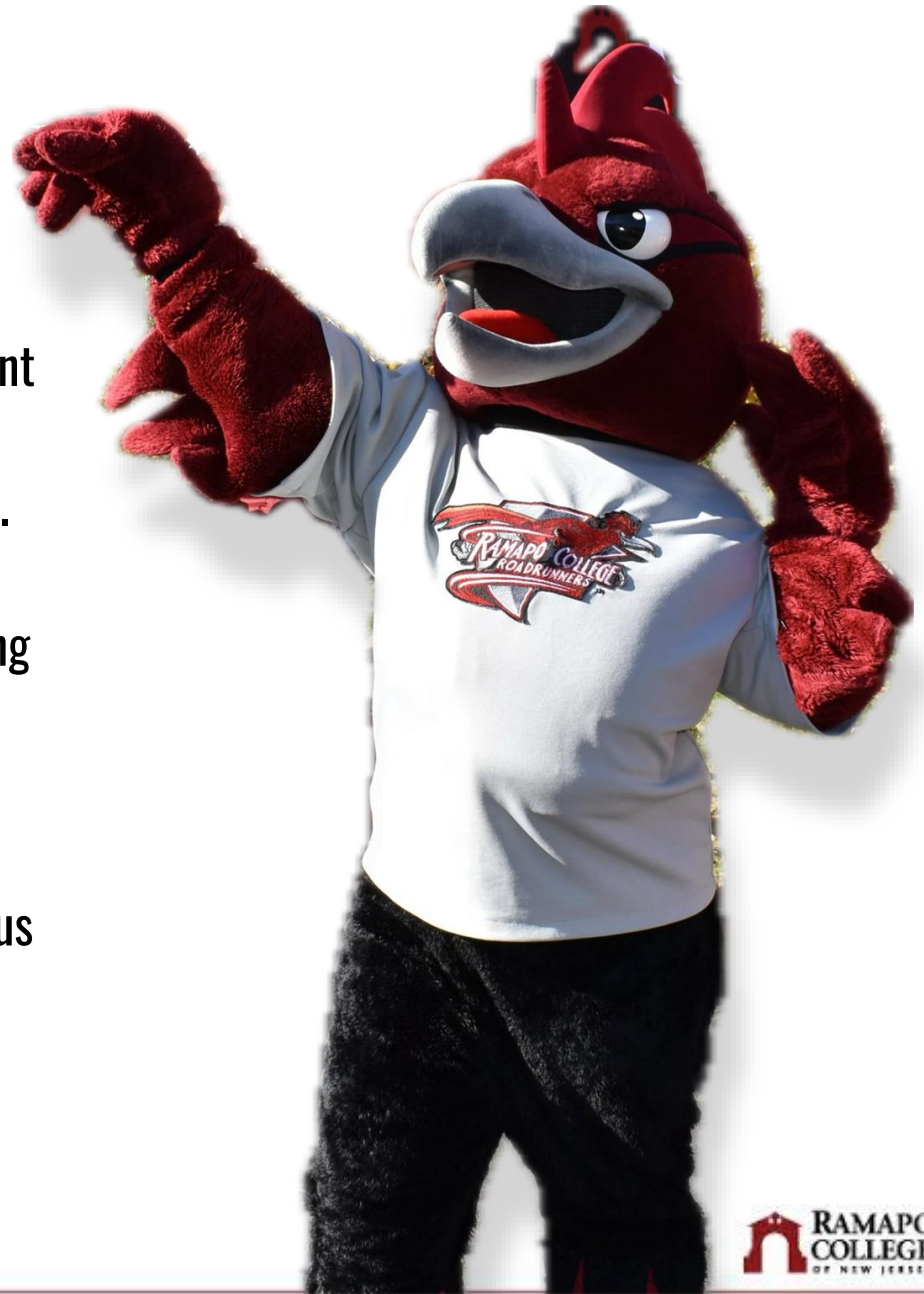
LISA CASSIDY

FALL 24

“Is Lady Whistledown Full of B.S.? An Impertinent Investigation” in *Bridgerton and Philosophy*, Edited by Jessica Miller. Wiley-Blackwell, 2026.

“Let’s Go to the Board’: Ideas for Active Learning in the In-Person Philosophy Classroom.”
Teaching Philosophy, Volume 48, Issue 3, 2025.

“The Art of Zoom U? Understanding Synchronous Online Teaching Using Novitz on Participatory Art.” *Journal of Aesthetic Education*, under consideration.



WARM UP!

- ***How often do you use the board in class?***

1-Never, I use pre-prepared slides

2-Sometimes, but certainly not regularly

3-All the time, I couldn't teach without my many colored markers

WARM UP!

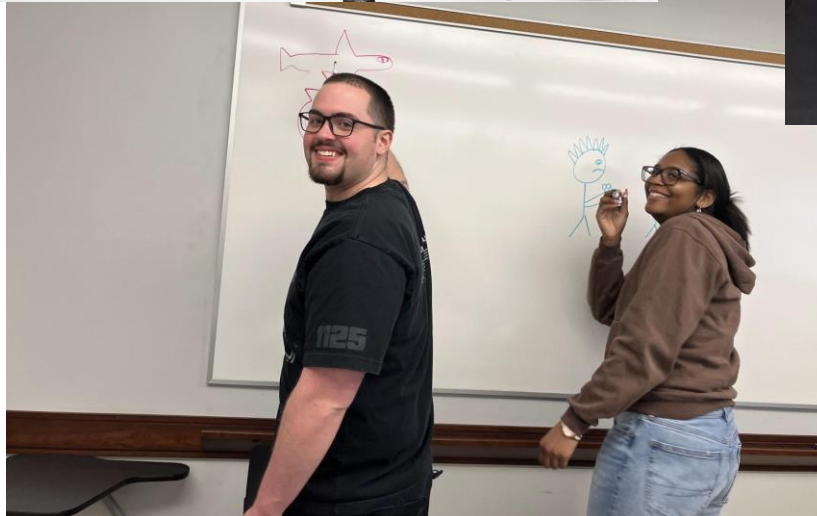
- ***How often do you have students use the board in class?***

1-Never, I like my students seated

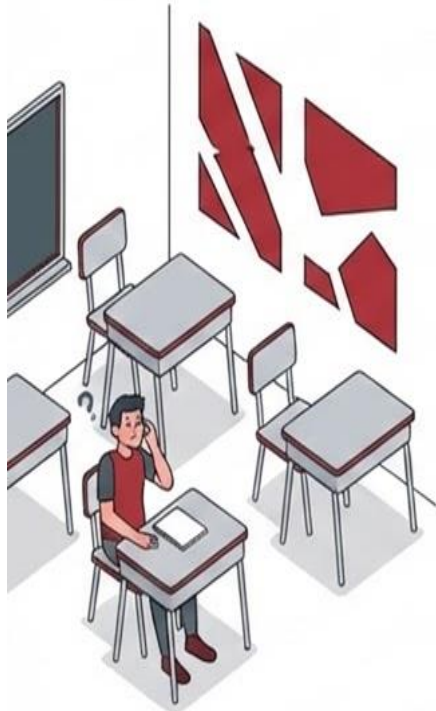
2-Sometimes, but certainly not regularly

3-All the time, gives me a chance to sit down in the back

WHO GOES TO THE BOARD, WHEN, & WHY?



Post-Pandemic College Classroom



Challenges

- 🏠 Social and behavioral skills are deficient
- 🏠 Academic skills are deficient
- 🏠 Conflicting perspectives about in-person vs. online experiences

Going to the Board

- 🏠 Low Stakes for students and professor
- 🏠 Uses teamwork to reinforce ideas
- 🏠 Makes the classroom accessible, values multiple intelligences



10 Suggested Activities



1. Warm up / Cool down



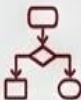
2. What is... graffiti



3. Answer questions from the text



4. Logic (or other quantitative) problem solving



5. Argument flowchart



6. Map making



7. Draw out examples from the text



8. Bumper sticker



9. Fishing net



10. Explain it to the Martians

EXPLAIN IT TO THE MARTIANS

Values: Ramapo College is the Public Liberal Arts College of the state of New Jersey. The work of the College and its members is conducted with integrity. Our values are:

- Teaching, learning, and mentoring—we are actively engaged in and out of the classroom.
- Developing the whole person—we are scholars, we are creators, we are local and global citizens, and we are individuals.
- Respecting each other and our environment—we are an open, inclusive, supportive, and sustainable community.

THE MARTIANS HAVE LANDED! THEY WANT TO UNDERSTAND RCNJ'S VALUES (ABOVE). WORK TOGETHER TO DRAW ONE PICTURE THAT EXPLAINS OUR VALUES. USE ONLY SYMBOLS, STICK FIGURES, ETC. AND NOT WORDS! BE READY TO EXPLAIN YOUR WORK!

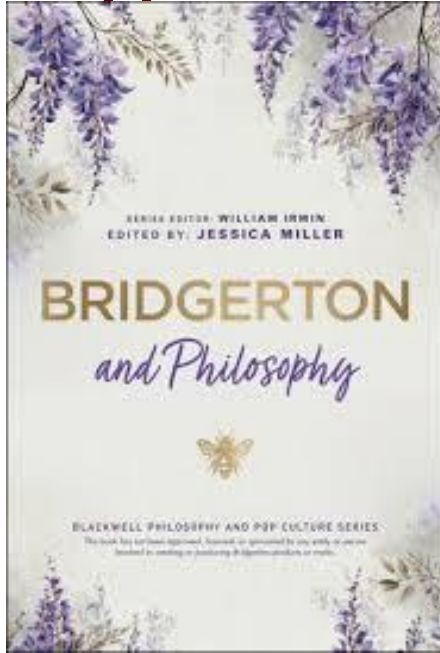
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the College



Happy to share the paper, please email me. **Thanks, Ken!**



“Run to the feast,
inconvenient timing,
enjoy your life.”

