

# Aspects of the Complexity and Diversity of LGBTQ+ Experience

- a) **Discovery** - What events or processes might prompt a student to discover or realize they may be LGBTQ+:
- b) **Disclosure** - If, to whom, how many, how, and when does a student tell others about their LGBTQ+ identity?
- c) **Personal Identity/ Naming** - What name or label does the student give to the LGBTQ+ aspect of their identity? What do they call themselves?
- d) **Entering the Community/Degree of Social or Political Consciousness** - Different ways in which LGBTQ+ students may relate to LGBTQ communities or groups, or connect their LGBTQ+ experience with socio/political awareness:
- e) **Diverting Attention or Hiding Out** - In times if and when the LGBTQ+ student has internalized the stigma of homophobia and heterosexism, different ways in which they might “hide out”; strategies for deflecting attention (their own as well as others’) away from their LGBTQ+ identity:
- f) **Relating to Heterosexual Majority** - Different ways in which the LGBTQ+ student may relate to the heterosexual majority (including peers, family, authority people, helping professionals, and/or public):
- g) **Relating to Other LGBTQ+ People** - Different ways in which LGBTQ+ students may relate to other LGBTQ+ individuals in their lives (ways of having or avoiding physical, social, and/or emotional connection with others):

**Managing Multiple Identities** - Different ways in which LGBTQ+ students may handle or hold their multiple identities: LGBTQ+ along with religious, cultural, racial, and/or ethnic identities: