



LILIE, LLC Course Information

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**More detailed course curriculum, including graduate level, alignment with standards, culturally responsive practices, assessments and resources, can be provided upon request*

Title of Course: Empathy and Equity: A Journey Through Social-Emotional Learning in Diverse Contexts

Course Description: This course aims to lay a solid foundation in nurturing empathy and enhancing social-emotional well-being, alongside promoting equitable instructional practices in K-12 classrooms. It prioritizes equity, ensuring that all students, particularly those from historically underserved and marginalized groups, receive a fair and just education. The curriculum delves into creating inclusive environments where both students and educators are encouraged to develop self-awareness and social awareness. It includes techniques for identifying and understanding emotions, their effects on the community, and how these insights can be used to advance equity. The course emphasizes the adoption of strategies that foster acceptance, understanding, and social-emotional learning (SEL) in a manner that addresses and reduces educational disparities. Through interactive discussions and assignments, participants will engage in a dynamic exchange of ideas and SEL strategies, designed to meet the diverse needs of today's educational environments, ensuring every student has the opportunity to thrive.

Instructor Consultation and Interaction

The course is an asynchronous online course that is available for instructor and student participation 24/7. The four-week duration of the class is broken down into four weekly sections each comprised of lecture in the form of instructor created articles and content, web links to academic and professionally reviewed articles in the discipline of general education, and instructor created discussion questions which are, in and of themselves, formative assessments to determine the extent to which the enrollees have comprehended and mastered the skills and information and begun to apply it to their personal teaching practices. The answers to these questions are the basis for the class interaction, as enrollees are required to respond to each other within the classroom.

Proof of Course Completion

LILIE, LLC is committed to assuring that enrollees fully participate in and receive the educational benefits provided by the course. Enrollees must demonstrate participation by making detailed postings designed to foster dialogue among colleagues and instructor that reflect the content, skills/ strategies learned and assessments covered in course. These enrollee postings must be made six times each week, in separate sessions, and including a minimum of 4 academic posts and at least 2 peer-peer comments of others' postings and possible shared assignments. Enrollees are required to submit a detailed reflective feedback n in combination with the archived work. Attempts to falsify record or discussion board entries will result in denial of credit and a report to the enrollee's employer.



Scope & Sequence/Weekly Topics and Objectives

Session I

<p>Objectives</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Analyze how cultural diversity affects students' access to resources, focusing on equitable environments. ● Evaluate culturally responsive teaching's role in supporting marginalized communities. ● Develop strategies to blend SEL with teaching to boost academic and personal growth. ● Reflect on and plan for growth regarding personal and institutional SEL beliefs. ● Create inclusive instructional strategies that respect all students, especially the overlooked. ● Build methods to engage families and communities, extending SEL's reach. ● Implement teaching methods that are culturally responsive and inclusive. ● Explore SEL's contribution to educational equity and meeting diverse student needs. ● Understand and promote SEL's core competencies through responsive teaching. ● Plan to address personal biases and systemic issues impacting SEL and inclusive education. ● Review how well SEL aligns with educational standards to enhance learning. ● Share and collaborate on SEL and culturally responsive teaching strategies with peers. ● Understand goals and criteria of peer-to-peer responses/ interactions and postings and practicing tenets of Brave Learning ● Understand goals and expectations for responses to discussion board assignments
<p>Topics</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Integrating SEL in Diverse Classrooms ● Equity in SEL: Addressing disparities in resource access and creating equitable learning environments that honor unique identities. ● Understanding and implementing culturally responsive teaching. ● Reflecting on personal and institutional beliefs related to SEL. ● The role of educators' identities and biases in teaching practices. ● SEL and Academic Standards: ● Core Competencies of SEL ● Promoting Understanding and Empathy ● Weekly SEL Resources and Strategies
<p>Application to Instruction & Student Learning</p>	<p>Equipping educators with the means to weave Social Emotional Learning (SEL) into their instructional methods, especially to aid students from diverse cultural backgrounds and experiences, fundamentally enriches student learning and instruction. By fostering equitable learning environments, this initiative guarantees that every student gains access to necessary resources and opportunities for growth, directly addressing any academic or personal development disparities. The practice of culturally responsive teaching is key, allowing educators to acknowledge and integrate students' cultural backgrounds into their teaching, thereby providing more tailored and impactful instruction. This method prompts teachers to confront and address their biases and systemic barriers, creating a more inclusive environment that boosts student engagement by making them feel recognized and valued. Focusing on SEL's core competencies, such as self-awareness and social skills, further aids students in developing crucial life skills like empathy and resilience, enhancing both academic success and personal well-being. Additionally, the emphasis on connecting with families and communities amplifies the effects of SEL and culturally responsive teaching, forming a supportive ecosystem around students that no doubt, impacts students' lives, steering towards a more equitable, understanding, and compassionate society.</p>

Session II

Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Learn about implicit bias and its effects on engaging all students.● Reflect on your biases and how they may influence your teaching.● Implement strategies to reduce biases for a more inclusive classroom.● Evaluate approaches for fairness and equality.● Discover Brave Learning and its role in supportive learning spaces.● Design SEL-integrated activities to improve classroom interaction.● Embrace Brave Learning to create a caring and interactive educational experience.● Value the diverse backgrounds of students to boost engagement and learning.● Encourage empathy, cooperation, and respect among students.● Explore how social awareness aids in becoming culturally competent and inclusive.● Think about how your understanding of social dynamics can shape your teaching.● Include diverse cultural narratives in your teaching to broaden students' perspectives.
Topics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Introduction to Final Assessment● Basics and Importance of Brave Learning● Building Community● Creating Brave Spaces● Combining SEL with Brave Learning● Understanding Social Awareness in SEL● Valuing Different Cultures and Backgrounds● Growing Empathy and Respect in Class● Challenges and Solutions for Educators● Making Schools More Inclusive● Reflective Practice for Educators● Recognizing and Addressing Personal Biases● Encouraging Courageous Conversations● Weekly SEL Resources and Strategies
Application to Instruction & Student Learning	<p>Tackling implicit biases and setting up Brave Learning environments can greatly boost how well students learn and apply knowledge. By creating a welcoming and exciting classroom that appreciates students' varied backgrounds, teachers can build stronger connections with all students, especially those from different cultures. Looking inward to understand personal biases helps teachers break down obstacles to genuine connections, making a classroom where students feel comfortable sharing and taking on new challenges. Adding Social Emotional Learning (SEL) skills like empathy, respect, and resilience makes the classroom even better, promoting fairness and helping students reach their highest potential. You can expect to see students becoming more confident, more involved in learning, and better at getting along with each other. These benefits come from teaching in a way that respects differences, shows empathy, and fights against biases, leading to students growing well-rounded academically, socially, and emotionally.</p>

Session III

Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Recognize the impact of SEL on creating inclusive and dynamic learning environments● Analyze the enhancement of SEL through brave learning and culturally responsive practices● Investigate specific brave learning and culturally responsive strategies● Evaluate the impact of these practices on student learning and well-being● Share SEL insights and strategies with peers● Examine the role of relationship skills in teaching and student interactions● Assess how strong relationships contribute to classroom success● Critique cultural influences on the teaching of relationship skills● Reflect on how diverse literature affirms students' identities and addresses inequity● Explore weekly SEL resources and strategies● Convey the importance of relationship skills across diverse educational contexts
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Topics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Midterm Assignment & Presentation ● SEL Integration ● Strategies & Activities ● Brave and Cultural Practices in SEL ● Community Engagement ● Relationship Skills & Culture ● Cultural Influence on Skills ● Literary Diversity ● Diverse Literature Benefits ● Weekly SEL Strategies ● Navigating Courageous Conversations
Application to Instruction & Student Learning	<p>This week, the focus on integrating Social Emotional Learning (SEL) with brave learning and culturally responsive practices in educational settings will work to fosters inclusivity, empathy, and a strong sense of belonging among students in both class and school community. Educators learning to utilize diverse materials and activities, such as courageous conversations and explorations of diverse literature, enhance students' engagement, relationship skills, critical thinking, and emotional intelligence. By encouraging reflective practice and peer engagement, educators promote continuous improvement and student development creating a supportive and inclusive learning environment that addresses both academic and emotional needs, contributing to the overall success and well-rounded growth of every student.</p>

Session IV

Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reflect on key concepts of culturally responsive teaching. ● Develop a Personal Journey Map ● Engage in Constructive Peer Feedback: ● Use feedback to support growth in culturally responsive teaching and SEL integration. ● Reflect on Self-Management and Responsible Decision-Making ● Promote Equity and Autonomy in the Educational Environment ● Consider how understanding and teaching SEL core competencies can promote equity and autonomy among students. ● Address potential challenges and solutions for implementing SEL in a culturally responsive manner. ● Foster a Positive Learning Environment through SEL Competencies ● Implement SEL Strategies in Various Environments ● Reflect on current teaching practices and identify opportunities for enhancing SEL. ● Plan and describe strategies for integrating SEL in classroom, remote, school-wide, and family/community environments.
Topics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SEL Core Competencies ● Impact of educators' own skills on practices and student interactions ● Promoting Student Autonomy ● Strategies for fostering independence in students ● Integrating self-management and decision-making in diverse cultural contexts ● supportive educational settings ● How SEL competencies can address and resolve equity issues in schools ● SEL Resources and Strategies ● Planning, applying, and sharing SEL strategies within educational communities ● Classroom and Beyond ● Adapting SEL content for broader educational and community contexts
Application to Instruction & Student Learning	<p>SEL) core competencies like self-management and responsible decision-making has the power to transform educational environments. By weaving these skills into teaching, educators can significantly impact students' ability to navigate both academic and personal challenges with greater autonomy and mindfulness. Engaging with resources from TED talks on grit and happiness to exploring the benefits of mindfulness and the importance of goal setting, provides a rich backdrop for understanding and teaching these competencies. Emphasizing culturally responsive practices ensures that every student's cultural and racial identity is respected and acknowledged, promoting a more equitable learning environment. Regular reflection through journals and discussions about personal and collective growth in these areas encourages both teachers and students to continuously develop. Implementing strategies from diverse sources, such as Khan Academy's Growth Mindset activities or practicing "The Power of Yet," helps foster a positive, inclusive, and growth-</p>

	oriented mindset school-wide. This approach not only supports academic success but also prepares students to engage constructively in a multicultural world, ensuring that SEL isn't just an educational tool but a life skill that respects and values diversity at every step.
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