



Student Engagement and Motivation

Course Syllabus

Course Description

The purpose of this professional development course is to introduce educators to the concepts of engagement and motivation in the classroom. The overarching goal of this course is to begin to solidify a more accurate definition and philosophy of the concepts of engagement and motivation through the lens of Self-Determination Theory (SDT). Two of the most popular words used in educational theory tend to be the least understood and have resulted in many students being mismanaged and taught to disengage.

This course enhances classroom teaching effectiveness and supports improved student outcomes by introducing new knowledge in motivation and engagement: how to use Self-Determination Theory to foster autonomy, promote healthy behavior, and support self-directed learning in the classroom.

Course Objectives

At the end of this course you should be able to:

1. Explain the concepts of engagement and motivation, and how they are applied in the classroom.
2. Explain the difference between autonomous and controlled behavior, including the causes of each.
3. Explain the basic psychological theories of motivation.
4. Explain Self-Determination Theory and its applications in the classroom.
5. Explain the role of choice and autonomous-supportive limits in self-directed learning environments.
6. Understand the causes of healthy behavior and how they can be promoted in the classroom.
7. Describe Self-Esteem and how it can be promoted in the classroom.
8. Understand the resources available to teachers who wish to utilize SDT in their classrooms.

Modules

- Module 1: Conceptualizing Engagement & Motivation, Quiz 1
- Module 2: Autonomous vs. Controlled Behavior, Quiz 2
- Module 3: The Psychology of Motivation, Quiz 3
- Module 4: Self-Determination Theory, Quiz 4
- Module 5: Choice & Autonomy-Supportive Limits, Quiz 5
- Module 6: Promoting Healthy Behaviors, Quiz 6



- Module 7: Self Esteem, Quiz 7
- Module 8: Resources for Teachers, Quiz 8

Grading:

Each quiz must be passed at an 80% or higher (three attempts allowed).

Format

This is a self-paced, asynchronous (no required live meetings) course. Throughout the PD course, you will find it helpful to take notes along the way to assist with the quizzes. Within each module, you will find reflection assessments that are not graded but will help in your journey through the course. There is an interactive forum in the course to help you connect with peers and instructors, share ideas, and collaborate on best practices throughout your learning journey.