

Syllabus for Hot Topics Course

Course Title: “Creating a Trauma Informed Classroom”

Course Description: More students are impacted by trauma than ever before. How do we deal with difficult behaviors and unpredictable reactions, with younger and younger students? Teachers want desperately to help struggling students, but need the most informed toolbox. Teachers have one of the most important roles and opportunities to provide skills, strategies, and supports when they create a trauma informed environment.

Credits: 1

Faculty/Instructor: Crystal Morse, M.Ed

Instructional Method: Constructivist

Self - reflection and informal needs assessment will be conducted to create a starting spot for group discussion and instruction. Lecture bursts will be combined with active participation experiences and role playing, to apply theoretical information with real life scenarios.

Required Text/References (if any):

No required texts. A wide variety of texts will be shared and referenced for teachers to consult, browse, and look over. A resources list will be provided to participants as part of the course packet.

Course Objectives:

Participants will be able to identify the major components of a universally supported classroom, in regards to behavior and trauma brain in students.

Participants will be able to use ACES to begin to assess student needs.

Participants will be able to start to build a toolbox of best practices and strategies to address and impact change.

Course Content/Topics/Outline:

What is trauma brain?

Skill vs. Will – How do we know?

ACES

Tier 1 supports – Universally Supported Classroom

What happens when tier 1 isn't enough?

What are the resources?

Why doesn't a sticker chart work?

Scenarios, case studies, research

Profile of Change

Evaluation Methods:

The participants will be developing action plans based on the needs of their buildings, resources available, and student concerns. Active participation and engagement in discussion and activities will determine participant success.