



## **Teacher and Student Passion**

**EDUO 9747**

**Two Semester Credits/Units**

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Welcome to **TEACHER and STUDENT PASSION (EDUO 9747)**. This class was created by Dominican University of California in conjunction with Educational Development and Services as part of a three-course series titled **PASSION DRIVEN EDUCATION**. The other two courses in the series are:

- **EDUO 9748 Passionate Classroom Communities**
- **EDUO 9749 Passionate and Engaging Lesson Planning**

Research suggests that throughout the era of testing and accountability, students and teachers have been losing their passion for learning. Many students are completing their schoolwork just to earn enough points for a good grade or to avoid consequences from their parents. We need to replace this “compliant” education with true student engagement and a love of learning. This series is designed to provide you with tools that will help you cultivate a thriving and passionate community of learners that are excited to come to school each day. In this particular course, you will learn how to tap into your passion for teaching as well as your students’ passion. By meeting the requirements of this class, participating teachers will earn two semester units of graduate level extension credit from the Dominican University of California, a fully accredited university.

Although Teacher and Student Passion is **NOT** a prerequisite for the other two courses, it does provide a foundation for them. Teacher and Student Passion, Passionate Classroom Communities, and Passionate and Engaging Lesson Planning all require the following two books: [Teach Like a Pirate](#) by Dave Burgess and [The Passion-Driven Classroom](#) by Angela Maier & Amy Sandvold. These books are available for purchase at [www.Amazon.com](http://www.Amazon.com).

### **OBJECTIVES**

After completing the course Teacher and Student Passion, you will demonstrate or indicate:

- A. The importance of creating student passion in the classroom.
- B. The importance of bringing teacher passion into the classroom.
- C. Strategies that bring student and teacher passion to the classroom.

## **GRADING RUBRIC**

Exemplary: A+ to A-	Acceptable: B+ to B-	Unacceptable: Must be resubmitted
Reflective, thoughtful ideas relevant to the assignment are clearly stated	Presents some relevant ideas and connections to the assignment	Ideas are not clear or relevant
Very well organized	Generally well organized	Shows little or no organization
Responses relate numerous facts and specific details of the program materials	Some facts and specific details of the program materials are included	Few or no facts or specific details of the program materials are included
Free of spelling and/or grammatical errors	Writing contains a few spelling and/or grammatical errors	Numerous spelling and/or grammatical errors make the writing difficult to read

## **ASSIGNMENTS**

You will need to read the Preface (pg. XV – XX), chapters 1-2 (pages 1-23), and chapter 8 (pages 131-134) in the book titled The Passion-Driven Classroom. You will also need to read the Introduction (pages XI – XIV), chapter 1 (pages 3-12), and all of Part III (pages 145-176) in the book titled Teach Like a Pirate. Once you have read the aforementioned sections of the textbooks, complete assignments 1-8. Put each assignment on a separate page, clearly labeled with the assignment number and name.

### **1. Discovering Your Passions**

- a. Describe a time when you were so engrossed in an activity that the rest of the world disappeared and every single one of your cells, muscles, and thoughts were fully immersed in that moment.
  - i. Were you fully engaged in this activity? How do you know?
  - ii. Are you passionate about this activity? If so, has it ever made it into your classroom? How?
- b. What are you passionate about teaching within your subject matter or grade level?
- c. Outside of the specific content area or grade level you teach, what aspects of your job are you passionate about? Explain.
- d. Aside from your career in education, what are your passions? Explain.

## Assignments Continued

### 2. Achievement Gap or Passion Gap?

Pretend that you have been selected to give a TED talk on the state of education today. You have been asked to address the question of whether education is suffering an achievement gap or a passion gap. You have also been asked to present your ideas on how to fill the gap. Given the concepts being taught in this class, your stance should be that one of the major issues with education today is a passion gap. When presenting your ideas on how to fill this gap, you can use any information that you have learned from the readings in this course or other information that you have researched on your own. In doing so, be sure to address the following from chapter 1 in the book Passion-Driven Education:

Knowing and Showing Teacher Passion  
Knowing and Showing Student Passion  
Knowing and Showing World Passion

### 3. TED Talk 2.0

Your TED talk was so popular that you have been asked to give a follow-up presentation. The audience loved your ideas about passion and would like to learn more details. In preparing your follow-up presentation, be sure to define the word passion and explain what passion can do for students, teachers, and their educational experiences. Don't forget to outline the benefits of bringing passion into the classroom.

### 4. Roadblocks

After reading Part III of Teach Like a Pirate,

- a. Make a list of all of the roadblocks that have prevented you from being "great" and bringing passion into the classroom.
- b. Explain how you can overcome each of these roadblocks.

### 5. Collaboration

Describe how you will utilize collaboration to bring passion and creativity into your classroom.

### 6. A Promise of Passion

Read The Promise of Passion on pages 131 & 132 of the book The Passion-Driven Classroom.

- a. What did you learn about engaging and motivating students in the classroom?
- b. How do you think we can keep this promise and still adhere to the curriculum standards?
- c. On behalf of the students and teachers at your school, write a Promise of Passion to your school site's administration team. Your "promise" can be in any format you wish and should utilize what you have learned in class thus far. You can write a poem, a song, or an editorial essay, etc... It's up to you.

## Assignments Continued

### 7. Compare & Contrast

Compare and contrast The Passion-Driven Classroom & Teach Like a Pirate with regard to what you have learned about passion and how it can transform a classroom.

### 8. Closing Remarks

Review everything that you have learned from your readings in this class as well as your work on assignments 1-7. After your review, discuss your opinion regarding the importance of teacher and student passion in the classroom. In addition, explain what steps you will take to begin your journey of bringing passion to your students and your teaching.