



## Teaching Life's Essentials - Compassion

**EDUO 9757 1 Semester Credit/Unit**

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### Public Syllabus

## Introduction

Welcome to **EDUO 9757**. This class was created as part of a seven course series entitled **Teaching Life's Essentials**. The other courses in the series are:

- **EDUO 9756 Happiness**
- **EDUO 9758 Curiosity**
- **EDUO 9759 Resilience**
- **EDUO 9760 Growth Mindset**
- **EDUO 9761 Inspiration**
- **EDUO 9762 Tolerance**

Isn't it true that great teachers are born not made? We say "not at all". With the guidance of the courses in this series, you can take your teaching to a new level; one that brings the highest degree of satisfaction to yourself and your students. Great teachers are remembered not for the knowledge they impart but for the way they encourage and lift their students' achievement, not just in a subject, but in the important skills of living a fulfilling life. These skills of happiness, of inspiration, compassion, curiosity and resilience are essential for both the learner and the teacher. This course will bring research to inform along with techniques and activities to imbue your delivery of required curriculum with the essence of greatness-both yours and your students'.

## Teaching Life's Essentials - Compassion

### Course Description

Through website resources and course assignments, teachers will be supported in the development of a **compassionate** classroom while at the same time making their students aware of the importance of becoming compassionate citizens.

### Course Goal

To help teachers create a compassion classroom and encourage that trait in their students

## Course Objectives

The teacher will:

1. Read and study given website resources.
2. Recall the influence of compassion in their life.
3. Strive to develop a compassion classroom that will influence student behavior.
4. Develop a lesson plan in which compassion is the theme.
5. Communicate with other class participants about the importance of compassion.

## Grading Rubric

Exemplary: A+ to A-	Acceptable: B+ to B-	Unacceptable:
Reflective, thoughtful ideas relevant to the assignment are clearly stated	Satisfactorily completes all assignment	Ideas are not clear or relevant
Very well organized	Generally well organized	Shows little or no organization
Responses show that resources have been well understood	Responses show that resources were read	Few or no facts or specific details from the resources
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

## Course Requirements

1. Respond to all *inquiries* in Course Assignments
2. Read all course website links
3. Post at least five comments on the Student Forum.
4. Respond to at least one Forum post made by another class participant.

## Course Assignments

**A full list of Resources, Activities and Lesson Plans will be in the actual course Syllabus**

## How to Submit Coursework

**Preparation:** Prepare assignments in either Word or PDF formatting. Mac users of Page can save their work as a Word file. Make sure you place your full name, course number and assignment category at the top of each page. Place all R assignments in one document. Do the same for all A and B assignments.

**Document names:** Name each document with your last name and assignment letter (BrownAssignmentsR; BrownAssignmentsA; BrownAssignmentsB).

**Dropboxes:** Place each completed document in the corresponding Dropbox found on the course Moodle page. You will receive feedback from your instructor, but don't wait for it to continue with your coursework.

**Forum Postings:** Submit all Forum postings using the Forum found on the course Moodle page. Label each discussion post with the number of the assignment it fulfills.

## Course Assignments

### First Things First

Responses **A2 & A3** relate to what COULD be done in the classroom.

**A1.** Describe a time when someone showed compassion towards you and the influence of that event upon you.

#### **A. Compassion resources and reactions (to be viewed only after completing A1-A3.)**

View the following TED talk: [https://www.ted.com/talks/joan\\_halifax?language=en](https://www.ted.com/talks/joan_halifax?language=en) After watching Joan Halifax, click on the following link.

[http://www.ted.com/conversations/5389/how\\_do\\_we\\_teach\\_children\\_compa.html](http://www.ted.com/conversations/5389/how_do_we_teach_children_compa.html)

You will find a great many reactions to Joan's talk about compassion. Look them over and pick three that speak to you.

**B1, B2, B3 – Forum Posts** Comment on each of your chosen reactions; then share the reaction and your thoughts on the Student Forum. **B. Lesson plan**

Open the following website and click on the appropriate grade level (k-2, 3-5, 6-8, or 9-12).

<http://www.seedsofcompassion.org/why/curriculum.asp#3-5>

After reading the information, open the PDF for the lesson plan. Use the lesson plan as a model for developing a plan that you could use in your classroom. Remember the **given** lesson plan is only a model - be sure to develop a plan that could be used in **your** classroom.

**C.** Your lesson plan

**D.** The Inventory: Take an inventory of stories, films, books, games, apps, etc in your classroom or school that have Compassion as a theme.