



Teaching Life's Essentials – Growth Mindset

EDUO 9760 1 Semester Credit/Unit

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Public Syllabus

Introduction

Welcome to **EDUO 9760**. 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 9757 Compassion**
- **EDUO 9758 Curiosity**
- **EDUO 9759 Resilience**
- **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 - Mindset

Course Description

Through website resources and course assignments the teacher will become aware of how a fixed mindset hinders the growth of many students and how a growth mindset can aid students in acquiring the skill of perseverance.

Course Goal

To help teachers create a growth mindset classroom

Course Objectives

The teacher will:

1. Read and study given website resources.
2. Understand how praise can be a step toward a fixed mindset.
3. Strive to develop a growth mindset classroom that will influence the student's learning habits.
4. Become aware of the influence of Carol Dweck upon educational thinking.
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.

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.

Class Assignments

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

A. Prior Class Knowledge

Prior to accessing any of the web resources in this course, respond to the following questions.

A1. What is your definition of mindset?

B. All Things Considered-Post Resource

Study the following website resource and then view the Ted Talk on You Tube

- <http://www.mindsetonline.com/whatisit/themindsets/index.html>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pN34FNbOKXc>

Now revisit what you have written in A1-A6

B1. Taking into account your experience both **pre** and **post** mindset concept awareness, make a comment about your own mindset concerning “mindset” and **Post it on the Forum.**

B2. Without specific identification, describe a person (or group) who you (as a student, teacher, parent or friend) observed being negatively affected by holding a fixed mindset (this could also refer to a character or group in a book, movie or TV program).

Read and study the following resource and view three of the four videos (you have already viewed the fourth one)

<http://www.mindsetworks.com/>

C. Talking to Kids

Look over every section of the following two resources and then indicate how you would talk to the following students in your class - an outstanding athlete, a talented artist and an academic - in order to cultivate a growth mindset

- <http://abcnews.go.com/GMA/AmericanFamily/story?id=2877896&page=1>
- <http://nymag.com/news/features/27840/>

C1. The athlete

C2. The artist

D. Carol Dweck

For those who have read Carol Dweck's book Mindset (some may have read the book and received a unit of credit through Reflective Reading EDUO 9000 or Book Study Club EDUO 9021) skip the next two resources and write a Forum post on your thoughts on the book Mindset for D1

For those who have not yet read Carol Dweck's book Mindset, read/view the following two resources and then make a comment about the influence that Carol has had on education.

<http://www.teachit.so/mindset.htm>

<http://ed.ted.com/on/UA77FITc#review>

D1. A Forum post about how the book Mindset has influenced you

Or

A comment about Carol Dweck's influence on education

View the following movie Front of the Class.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8veT5QspylE>

D2. Show what you know about growth mindset by reviewing the movie as an example of how a growth mindset can be the catalyst for happiness and success.