



## The Power of Pixar and SEL Learning

EDUO 9307 1 Semester Credit/Unit

Instructor – Lindsey White

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### Course Syllabus

#### Course Overview

Did you know that many educators would love to show Pixar films in their classroom as a way of promoting social-emotional learning? Unfortunately showing full-length features chews up quite a bit of class time. There's a solution. Teachers can now use Pixar film shorts to highlight **Social Emotional Learning\*** skills to help strengthen their classroom's climate and culture.

The goal is for educators to incorporate Pixar film shorts into their instruction to help emphasize social emotional learning skills.

#### Course Objectives

In this course, participants will have opportunity to:

- Teacher will design mini-lessons/ideas based on specific SEL skill
- Teacher will incorporate Pixar Short film of their choice and tailor it to a specific SEL Skill
- Teacher will share reflective piece on how the Pixar short film helped with the Promotion of the skill.

#### Course Relation to CCS or other Professional Standards

This course aligns to the standards for:

- Using knowledge of students to engage them in learning
- Connecting subject matter to meaningful, real-life contexts
- Using a variety of instructional strategies, resources, and technologies to meet students' diverse learning needs
- Promoting critical thinking through inquiry, problem solving, and reflection

#### How to Submit Coursework

Each completed assignment in this course is submitted to the instructor for review. Course Assignments should be created then uploaded to your Dominican course dropbox. You will be given instructions on how to do this when you enroll in the course. Name each file submitted with your last name and assignment number (i.e. BrownAssignment3. Make sure you place your full name, course number and assignment number at the top of each document page. You will receive feedback from your instructor within 5 days indicating successful completion of the assignment or the need for revision. Assignment grades will be averaged for the final course grade.

Grading assessment rubrics for written projects and for presentation projects are found in this document.

## Course Assignments

### Activity #1: Just what is Social Emotional Learning

1. Read the article on Social Emotional Learning: [SEL Article #1](#)
2. Respond to the questions below.
  - a. What are the 5 key components to SEL.
  - b. What makes a successful Social Emotional Learning program. Name the 4 elements.
  - c. In your own words, what are the benefits of having an SEL program?

### Activity #2: How does your school and you use a Social Emotional Program?

1. Describe 2-3 ways your school uses a SEL program.
2. Describe 1-2 ways you bring in an SEL program into your classroom
3. What kind of assessments does your school use to measure student SEL achievement. Be specific. You may attach a rubric, grading sheet, or student example. Mark out student names please.
4. What kind of assessments do you use to measure student SEL achievement. Be specific. You may attach a rubric, grading sheet, or student example. Mark out student names please.

### Activity #3: Questionnaire

1. Design a thoughtful questionnaire for students to fill out.
2. Share questionnaire with me(instructor) for approval. It should focus on how your school and you use SEL instruction
3. Submit Questionnaire to your students
4. Collect Questionnaire and do some data analysis
  - a. What did you notice?
  - b. Any surprises with the results?
  - c. How can the data help you strengthen your SEL program based on the data submitted?
  - d. Now that you've looked at the data, what are your next steps?

### Activity #4: What is Pixar?

1. Watch this video on the History of Pixar: [History of Pixar](#)
2. Summarize the video in your own words
3. Click on this link for the list of Pixar Shorts: [List of Pixar Shorts](#)
4. Find and Watch 2-3 Pixar film shorts of your choice
  - a. Name each movie
  - b. Summarize each movie in 4-6 sentences
  - c. What is the movie's theme?
  - d. How could you use the film to help with SEL instruction?
  - e. Can you cite specific examples from the film that you'll use to really illustrate your SEL instruction?

### Activity #5: Design 3 Lessons

1. Select an SEL skill.
2. Create a well-organized lesson (#1) based on the skill and Pixar Short. Teach the lesson.
3. Reflect on the lesson. How did your students do? What were the strengths and weaknesses of the lesson? How did you differentiate and/or try to meet the needs of all students? What teaching strategies did you use to make it an effective lesson? How will you make the next lesson better?
4. Create a well-organized lesson (#2) based on the skill and Pixar Short. Teach the lesson.
5. Reflect on the lesson. How did your students do? What were the strengths and weaknesses of the lesson? How did you differentiate and/or try to meet the needs of all students? What teaching strategies did you use to make it an effective lesson? How will you make the next lesson even better?
6. Create a final well-organized lesson(#3) based on the skill and Pixar Short. Teach the lesson.
7. Reflect on the lesson. How did your students do? What were the strengths and weaknesses of the lesson? How did you differentiate and/or try to meet the needs of all students? What teaching strategies did you use to make it an effective lesson?

Activity #6: Reflection

1. How did the use of Pixar Short films help strengthen your SEL program?
2. How did it make you more aware of your students' needs?
3. How did this class improve your skills as a teacher?
4. Why do you suppose a strong SEL program is important to the success of student achievement?

**Course Grading Rubric**

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>EXCELLENT</b> Meets or Exceeds Course Objectives: A to A-</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ACCEPTABLE</b> Majority of Work Meets Course Objectives; B+ to B-</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>NOT ACCEPTABLE</b> Needs Considerable Improvement: Resubmit Work Suggested: C or below</p>
Shows exemplary understanding of how to apply Pixar short films to highlight Social Emotional Skills	Shows good understanding of how to apply Pixar short films to highlight Social Emotional Skills	Shows very little understanding of how to apply Pixar short films to highlight Social Emotional Skills
Shows strong evidence of instructional strategies, resources, and technology to meet students' needs	Shows good evidence of instructional strategies, resources, and technology to meet students' needs	Shows very little evidence of instructional strategies, resources, and technology to meet students' needs
Shows strong application of written summary for articles, reflection of lesson plans	Shows good application of written summary for articles, reflection of lesson pla	Shows poor application of written summary for articles, reflection of lesson plans
Free of spelling and/or grammatical errors. They don't interrupt the reading.	Writing contains a few spelling and/or grammatical errors	Numerous spelling and/or grammatical errors make the writing difficult to read

- You are allowed 9 months to complete the course. Course questions? Contact your instructor by email.
- For questions involving your registration please contact us at [support@dominicanCAonline.com](mailto:support@dominicanCAonline.com) or call (800) 626-5080. To change your address, link to your Dominican Store account at [https://www.dominicanaonlinestore.com/store/index.php?main\\_page=login](https://www.dominicanaonlinestore.com/store/index.php?main_page=login)
- For Dominican Self-Guided course information, link to <http://dominicancaonline.com/Dominican-CA-Online-FAQ>