

AUGUSTANA UNIVERSITY

Course Syllabus

Schools That Matter Graduate, 3 hrs of credit

Psychology or Special Education 688CF

Instructor of Record: Dr. Steve Van Bockern

Course Description

This two day course will help participants understand how to build a positive classroom and school; a place where the needs of children and adults are met. Schools That Matter has its philosophical roots in the Circle of Courage® as explained in *Reclaiming Youth at Risk: Our Hope for the Future* written by Drs. Larry Brendtro, Martin Brokenleg and Steve Van Bockern. The Circle of Courage® suggests that when the human needs of belonging, mastery, independence and generosity are met, children and adults do well. Schools That Matter create powerful human experiences that encourage growth and healthy development.

Faculty

The Instructor of Record is Dr. Steve Van Bockern, Professor of Education at Augustana University.

Learning Outcomes

Participants will:

1. examine a philosophical base that helps transform negative school cultures to positive learning environments.
2. examine new paradigms and alternatives in education including growth mindset and the ideas presented in *Reclaiming Youth at Risk: Our Hope for the Future*.
3. examine both positive and problematic characteristics manifested by youth along with appropriate interventions to foster resilience and responsible behavior.
4. explore essential components or indicators of quality school programs for youth.
5. be engaged in a wide range of issues facing children and families that affect school outcomes including stressors and inequities of modern society.
6. gain insight into youth problems and how those problems can be addressed.
7. identify trauma and trauma informed care within the context of schools and classrooms
8. learn how to respond rather than react to children's "bad" behavior.

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9. define emotional intelligence and the importance of adults who constantly work on their own emotional intelligence.
10. understand best practice teaching

Topical outline

- I. Understanding Human Needs
 - Maslow, Benson, Seligman
 - Resilience Science and the Circle of Courage™
- II. Foundational Understandings
 - Discipline Not Punishment
 - Responding Not Reacting
 - Trauma Informed Care
- III. Skill Development in Emotional Intelligence
 - Managing Emotions
 - Relationship Building: Caring, Clarifying, Creating Solutions
 - Cultivating Responsibility
 - Talent and Interest Development
- IV. Restorative Practices
 - Building Strengths and Support
 - Restoring Kindness and Compassion

Book Requirements

Van Bockern, S. (in press). Schools That Matter. UW Faculty of Education Publishing. University of Winnipeg, Canada.

Brendtro, L., Brokenleg, M. & Van Bockern, S. (2002). Reclaiming Youth at Risk: Our Hope for the Future. Bloomington, IN: SolutionTree.

Course Requirements

All requirements/assignments are to be submitted to the instructor within 30 days of the last day of training. Permission from the instructor is necessary to extend this deadline. E-mailed assignments are accepted; for the purposes of this course: vanbock@augie.edu . Paperwork should be sent to: Steve Van Bockern, Augustana University, 2001 S. Summit, Sioux Falls, SD. If submissions are by email, all assignments should be downloaded as one. Contact Steve at vanbock@augie.edu with questions.

1. Fully participate during the 2 days of training. Complete in class projects including: a self-evaluation, role play participation, a reflection on a written article (article provided by the instructor) and contemporaneous notes taken during the course.

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2. Read the book Reclaiming Youth at Risk: Our Hope for the Future by Brendtro, Brokenleg and Van Bockern. Complete the study guide that accompanies the text. Complete the exam on key concepts found in Reclaiming Youth at Risk: Our Hope for the Future. This can be found at the website CFLearning.org.
3. Read and then complete the exam on key concepts found in Schools That Matter. This can be found at the website CFLearning.org. Complete the assessment called "Schools That Matter Assessment".
4. As a final project create a PowerPoint presentation on some of the ideas you wish to share with other teachers, parents or your students (fifteen slides minimum) **Or** Write a traditional library paper on some topic covered in the course that you wish to explore in greater detail. The paper should be three to five pages in length excluding the reference page. There should be a minimum of three references.

Registration

Students complete a registration form indicating a desire for graduate credit in either psychology or special education. Payment is due at the time of registration.

Cost

Three hours of credit is \$300.00 (US dollars). Cash is not accepted. Checks, money orders and credit cards are accepted, payable to **CF Learning**.

Grading and Transcripts

After final grades are submitted, the students receive a grade report from Augustana. Official transcripts can be obtained upon request by visiting www.augie.edu.

For questions or concerns, please contact CF Learning at wendybeukelman@calfarley.org or call 605-744-0116.