

## Course Syllabus

<b>Course:</b>	<b>EDZU 9030 <u>The Respectful Student</u></b>
<b>Credit Hours:</b>	3.0 credits / 45 hours
<b>Instructor:</b>	Richard Acritelli

### Course Description

Respect is one of the greatest issues teachers and support staff face when trying to educate this generation of children. Creating a culture that identifies and embraces our newest generation of students for who they are is crucial to achieving success in the classroom. In this course, educators will explore the impact of cultural values, work ethic, family life and a number of other factors that influence students inside and outside our schools. The Respectful Student will incorporate shared experiences, engaging readings, videos, and related stories in the news to provide a global understanding of the children we see in our schools every day.

### Course Goals

#### To Know

1. The greatest challenges that are facing the students of today and tomorrow through this period of economic recession and the changing global economy.
2. The changes in American students over the last several decades and the expectations of the children of today.
3. How other nations perceive the United States educational system and the gains they have made in challenging our students.
4. Why it is important for our children/young adults to be experimental in their likes and dislikes in order to make them into future versatile citizens and workers.

#### To Understand

1. What the issues of the changing cultural values and its impact on our students – high divorce rate, drugs, suicide, single parent families, etc.
2. How the social media has impacted the youth of today in how they communicate with each other and how they determine the world around them
3. The triumphs and tragedies of government, sports and Hollywood figures that continue to demonstrate both positive and negative examples to our impressionable youth
4. If the meaning of right and wrong has changed between the teachers and students of today
5. The significance of our students to co-exist, understand and learn from different multi-cultural groups

that live in our communities and nations

6. Why it is important for our students develop pride in themselves for past, present and future goals/objectives

**and To Be Able To**

1. Have all participants analyze the strongest concerns in their school and society and to create possible solutions in solving these pressing issues.
2. Analyze news clips, movies and news stories on the greatest issues that are impacting our students during the length of this course.
3. Describe the rationale behind the behavior of their students and if it has led to a growth of bullying (cyber), fighting, harassment, etc.
4. Identify the participants strengths and weaknesses in dealing with the students of the twenty first century
5. Determine the importance of local and national service in fostering a larger sense of pride in helping others (Red Cross, Salvation Army, Volunteer Fire Department/Law Enforcement, the Military, etc.).
6. Understand the importance of peer mediation/conflict resolution in preventing disputes in becoming major violent/hostile actions between students.

**Course Outline**

I. Dealing with the actions of our student in and out of school

- A. Background and make-up of their students and classes.
- B. The impact of dress codes within our schools (respect, better grades, non-competitive learning environment, issues over bullying, etc.)
- C. Use of cell phones, texting, and sexting in schools and at home.
- D. The proliferation of sexual relations and the growing patterns of abuse from this age level.
- E. The need to foster positive interaction inside and outside of our classes.
- F. The students will have a chance to watch the Breakfast Club as one of the course assignments. This film deals with the different groups of students that are forced to spend a day together. It focuses on the cliques, views, and issues that these students have that are not that much different from each other.

II. Role of People in Society – Positive and Negative Results

- A. Hall of Fame induction speech of Cal Ripken. Exploring true role models.
- B. Nnamud Asomughi on the importance charity to help people in need in Nigeria.
- C. Review of high school football player post-game conduct.

- D. The students are able to watch the film the *Blind Side*. This movie focuses on a young man that was homeless that was taken in by a wealthy family. The students will have questions on this student-athlete that became a football standout in high school and college and is currently playing in the NFL.
- E. The roles and impact of female role models within our society.
- F. Issues of steroid abuse, cheating, respect for the game, and athlete perception towards younger athletes and students.
- G. The impact of talented Hollywood actors that have past away from drug use.
- H. Exploring the well-known positive characteristics of Derek Jeter. It will be based on the make-up of his family and the strong contributions that were made by his parents on his upbringing and career.

### III. Importance of Local and National Service, Respect, and Hard Work

- A. President Obama speech about the National Teacher of the Year.
- B. The importance of national and foreign service – from joining the military, learning a trade, and serving our nation to that of the Peace Corps.
- C. Administrator views on the work ethic of our students.
- D. Bullying video and case study.
- E. The differences of discipline between American and foreign students.
- F. Parents and the helicopter effect.
- G. The students will watch the film *The Bronx Tale* on the impact of decision-making, different cultures/races, and influences that could harm or hurt the young man that was portrayed in this movie.

### IV. Teaching Tolerance, Generational Differences, Cheating, Student Behavior, and Manners

- A. The importance of teaching about tolerance for different ethnic and racial groups and religions.
- B. The generational differences from the students of today to that of our citizens over the last several decades.
- C. The positives and negatives of a possible draft for our younger adults.
- D. The students will watch *Heaven Help Us* and the generational differences of a Catholic school in 1960's Queens, New York. This film focuses on the conservative vs. liberal view points on education and discipline.
- E. The impact of students and the rise of cheating.
- F. The importance of manners with our students.
- G. Behavior Intervention Plans and the best practices of working with difficult students and their parents.
- H. The importance of peer mediation with the ability of students working well with each other and solving problems on their own.

- I. This class will have a chance to watch the film *I Love You Beth Cooper*. It focuses on the encounter of different social groups that spend a long night learning from each other.

### **Methods of Instruction**

The students will have several areas of instruction that are designed to present this important content in a variety of ways. They will read stories from noted think-tanks, authors, newspaper sources, documentaries, and current events that are related to this course that will be presented to them on a daily basis. Every day these assignments will be graded and my own thoughts will be presented about this submitted work. All participants are expected to fully present their own views, experiences, and feelings about every assignment that they complete. This class will also have forums that are based on important, insightful, and controversial stories that have occurred during the time of this class. Each student will watch one film that is directly related to the class and they will answer questions that focus on the issues that were addressed by the Respectful Student. These movies are designed for the participants to view Hollywood as an important source that often creates films about situations that we often see with our own students and young adults.

*Students will connect with each other throughout the course within forums and various other types of online feedback options built into each class.*

### **Methods of Assessment**

All students are expected to complete readings, think tank studies, films, current events, and documentaries. Forums will also be presented and they will show the entire groups feelings on a subject that is related to this course. Each participant will respond to another student's post that is related to a question or source that was presented to the class. Graduate students are expected to complete all of the required work, do one additional in-course assignment, and either submit a paper or lesson plan. If they write a paper, it must be tied to the content of this course, 3-5 pages long, contain at least 5 citations that are from three different sources (MLA or Chicago Style Format). All work must also have a work cited and cover page. For a grade of a B, students must complete a lesson plan that is tied to this class. All teachers will create class materials and a rationale that would be taught to their students or to the staff/administration when speaking about an issue that was presented by the Respectful Student.

*Instructors are online each day of the course and correspond with students through the course itself, feedback on assignments, e-mail, and by phone.*

## Time Validation

*Notes About Assignments\** All students are expected to complete 45 hours of course work. In order to meet the needs of educational professionals working in different tenure areas, grade levels, and settings, this course offers students the opportunity to select from a number of resources and assignments within each unit of study. These are in addition to those that are identified as mandatory by the instructor. In addition, in order to remain relevant, the instructor regularly updates content with contemporary issues as they arise.

Assignment	Time (in hours)
All participants will respond to several questions that are based on the character/make-up of their school, problems that occur, positive actions by the students, etc. We will look at the changes that we see in respect, hard work, basic manners amongst some of the children of today.	1.50
Dress Codes within our Schools - The teachers will be engaged with a reading and questions on the possibility of more schools adhering to a dress codes. All participants will write about their own experiences with this topic and how their school handle the issues of clothing. They will also be provided with information that identify the possibility of public schools utilizing uniforms for all of their students.	2.00
Cell Phone, Bullying, Sexting and Texting - The teachers will respond to this resource that identifies the troubling aspects of technology and how it could harm our students inside and outside of our classroom. All participants will look at the risky impact of phones and how parents, teachers, and the administrators could curb this educational and social distraction that continually changes.	2.00
Should Our Students be Considered for the Military Draft - The teachers will read about the 70th Anniversary of D-Day and the description of several veterans about their World War II experiences. This information is tied the need to foster patriotism, service to our nation, and providing a sound direction towards younger students who have yet to have a solid plan after they graduate high school. All participants will provide their own thoughts about the need for national public service vs. the rights of the individual.	2.00
Young Adults/Children Sexual Relations - All students will identify the growing issues of violence that has become increasingly common amongst our students and young adults. The class will have information that is presented on the alarming trends of these negative types of actions and crimes. They will answer questions and write a reaction that focuses on the rise of this violence.	2.00
Positive Interaction and Results of Student Growth and the Support - The students will look at various strategies that identify the importance of presenting a greater sense of positive interaction with our students. All participants will analyze the combination of pushing and motivating our students to do well with all of their studies and exams.	2.00
Beautiful Brains (Thought Process and Behavior of Students) - All participants will analyze a National Geographic Story on the impact of student decision-making and write a strong reaction to the information that was provided through this in-detail study.	2.50
Pokey Mon Craze and the Younger Students with Technology - This is an important assignment on the concerns that younger students are spending too much time on technology and that it may have an adverse impact on their educational and social development. All teachers will write a reaction on this most recent fad that has engrossed our children and the problems that they see with technology and the development of our students.	1.50
Breakfast Club – Film - All students are expected to watch one of the several films that are listed. They will answer questions that are based on the various students of this movie and	3.50

troubles that were depicted through bullying, peer pressure, different groups of students, etc. All Participants are expected to write about the connection of this film to that of their own students/classes.	
Peer Mediation, Teachers, and Students - The class will identify the importance of students and teachers working well together to foster a better educational environment. They will respond to detailed questions on this subject and they will be required to identify the practices that they follow within their own schools with other teachers, support staff, students, and administration.	<b>2.00</b>
Sports Role Model Cal Ripken Hall of Fame Speech - The students will read parts of this speech that presents the hard working and regular approach of one of the most consistent baseball players. Each student will write a reaction about the views of this ball player who spoke of the importance of teachers, police officers and other regular people that handle vital social jobs.	<b>2.00</b>
Nnamdi Asomugha, the NFL and Charity - The students will watch a video and complete questions on charitable services of this immigrant football player from Nigeria to help foster a greater sense of education in the United States and at his native home.	<b>1.50</b>
Sportsmanship, football, and abuse - The teachers will read a story and answer questions about the negative and criminal conduct of a football player after a game. They will address the consequences that all participants expect against this young man's poorly thought out actions.	<b>1.50</b>
The Blind Side - The teachers will watch one of the films that are listed within the class. They will answer questions that are based on this young man's rise from a drug infested, homeless, violent background to being taken in by a family that nurtured and helped him become a talented football player. They will make connections towards the students and problems that they see within their own community and school district.	<b>3.50</b>
The Importance of Male Role Models - The students will answer questions that are based on the importance of role models towards the development of children and young men. Educators often see these concerns on a daily basis through divorce and single parent families. All participants will learn about the growing amount of students that do not have a strong male figure that is present and the positives of these type of figures (teachers, coaches, etc).	<b>3.00</b>
The Importance of Female Role Models - The students will watch a 60 Minute video clip on Beyonce and read a story on the strength of female role models in our society. They will provide a written reaction on the need for our girls and young ladies to have suitable female role models that establish a good example.	<b>2.00</b>
Parents and Discipline of their children - The students will read a survey and answer questions on the most recent impact of parent discipline over their own children. All participants will analyze the positives and negatives that are seen through the most recent types of disciplinary actions and how are students respond to the actions of their parents.	<b>2.00</b>
Philip Seymour Hoffman/Chris Farley - Talent, Hollywood, and Substance Abuse - Often we speak about the shame of losing talented people that have wasted a tremendous amount of skill within their fields (athletics, actors, writers, etc.). The teachers will watch video clips and read information about the tragic loss of Hoffman and Farley who were both lost at an early age.	<b>2.00</b>
Great Kneck SAT Cheating Scandal - The participants will watch a 60 Minutes documentary on the cheating scandal that engrossed this Long Island on largescale corruption that was carried out by a young man. All participants will answer questions and write a strong response towards the actions of a high school student who was paid to take this exam for a number of his peers. The teachers and support staff will learn about the negative rationale of this student that hurt the trust of this national exam. They will also read a survey on the most recent concerns about cheating that will be tied to this video clip.	<b>2.50</b>
Derek Jeter, Baseball, Greatness, Pride Reading, Video, and Questions - The teachers will analyze the professional baseball life and example that Jeter has established since he started his career in 1995. They will watch a video clip, read about his retirement, and answer	<b>2.00</b>

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questions on a figure that is consistently seen as one of the most well rounded athletes for our students to positively follow.	
Manners and Our Students - Participants will analyze a strong reading on the impact of manners and the educational and social development of our students. They will answer questions that include their own thoughts on the importance of fostering better manners with our students and how they positively react with all generations of people.	<b>2.00</b>
President Obama and the National Teacher of the Year Assignment - The teachers will watch a video clip on the views of President Obama on education and the drive that one teacher presented on a daily basis to make her class into a better place. All participants will respond to the words that President Obama expressed about the standing of public education in the United States and about the teachers that carry out this mission on a daily basis. Once President Trump's Administration is under way, there will be a similar assignment that will be based on education and teaching under his leadership.	<b>1.50</b>
The Importance of National and Foreign Service Reading and Questions - The teachers will research various government programs that push our students to volunteer to help misfortunate people in different states and foreign nations. They will provide information that could be best presented to their own students on opening the vital world of service to help others that are near and far.	<b>1.50</b>
The Work Ethic of Students and the Beliefs of Teachers and Administrators - The teachers will read a strongly written editorial on the views of an administrator and teacher on the views of diminished pride and hard work that are seen amongst some of the students of today. All participants will write a reaction and answer questions on the thoughts of these educators that openly wonder about the ability of our students to do their very best with all of their educational endeavors.	<b>2.00</b>
Student Respect on Bus with Older Lady - The class will watch the video of disrespect towards an elderly lady that serves as an aid on a school bus. Several students mocked this lady and they were caught on tape for their negative behavior. All participants will respond to this video that featured the strongly held views of Today talk show Matt Laeur and they will connect this terrible display of bullying towards an older citizen to the issues that they see with their own students and young adults.	<b>2.50</b>
Parents and the Helicopter Effect - All teachers will read a study on the findings that some parents are clearly handling too many responsibilities for their own children, refuse to allow them to fail, and expect teachers to do too much to ensure the success of their children. All participants will provide their own feelings about the role of parents and students through the educational process to do more on their own and to take more ownership over their actions inside and outside of the classroom.	<b>2.50</b>
Final Graduate Paper or Lesson Plan with Resources - The students will be expected to write a 4-5 page paper that addresses key issues that were examined in class that are also tied to the responsibilities and concerns that educators face on a daily basis. All work is to be properly cited (MLA/Chicago Style), 12 font, double spaced, and tied to the discussions of this course. All Lesson Plans will focus on the abilities of the teachers to connect the major aspects of this course towards the teaching and relations with their students inside and outside of their classrooms. Teachers will create a rationale and resources that will be tied to these Lesson Plans.	<b>4.00</b>
<b>Total Time</b>	<b>59.00</b>

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