

Graduate Course Description Form

Course Number: IGC 718

Course Name: Beyond Consequences: A Restorative Approach to School Discipline

Instructor: Casey Rekowski

Credits Earned: 3 Graduate Credits, which equates to:

- 67.5 PDPs (courses taken prior to June 8, 2026)
- 22.5 PDPs (courses taken after June 8, 2026)

Credits Issued By: Gordon College

Course Fee: \$675 (\$625 with early registration discount)

Course Description:

This course equips Massachusetts educators with the theory, skills, and practical tools to implement restorative practices as an alternative or complement to traditional punitive discipline. Participants learn to facilitate restorative circles, conduct restorative conversations following harm, analyze equity implications of discipline data, and build the school culture conditions that make restoration possible. n Framework and the Massachusetts tiered systems of support framework. ; conversations that are both educationally essential and professionally challenging. This course builds the facilitation skills, discussion structures, and professional dispositions Massachusetts teachers need to lead these conversations well: preparing students to engage productively, maintaining psychological safety, handling moments when discussion breaks down, and navigating the relationship between classroom discussion and community context. This course is aligned to the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Facilitate proactive community-building circles that establish trust and shared values as a foundation for restorative discipline.
2. Lead restorative conversations following harm using a structured protocol that centers accountability and relationship repair.
3. Analyze school and classroom discipline data through an equity lens to identify disproportionality and systemic patterns.
4. Design a restorative response plan for common disciplinary scenarios in your school or grade-level context.
5. Distinguish between restorative and punitive discipline philosophies and articulate the research base for restorative approaches.