



Graduate Course Description Form

Course Number: IGC 718

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

Instructor: TBD

Credits Earned: 3 Graduate Credits / 67.5 PDPs (for courses completed before June 8, 2025) or 22.5 PDPs (for courses completed on or after June 8, 2025)

Credits Issued By: Gordon College

Course Fee: \$675 (\$575 for early bird registration)

Course Description:

This course equips Massachusetts educators with the philosophy, practices, and skills to implement restorative approaches to school discipline — moving beyond punishment toward repair, accountability, and community-building. Grounded in Zehr's restorative justice framework and current research on equitable school discipline, participants learn to facilitate restorative conversations, design restorative circles, and build school cultures that address harm without exclusion. This course is aligned to the Massachusetts Educator Evaluation Framework.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Explain the philosophy and core principles of restorative justice and contrast them with traditional punitive discipline approaches.
2. Facilitate restorative conversations and circles that address harm, repair relationships, and restore community.
3. Apply an equity lens to school discipline data and use restorative practices to reduce disproportionate discipline for students of color and students with disabilities.
4. Design restorative systems and practices that can be implemented at the classroom, grade-level, and school-wide levels.
5. Collaborate with colleagues and administrators to shift school culture toward accountability, repair, and belonging rather than exclusion.

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