

Graduate Course Description Form

Course Number: IGC 714

Course Name: Safe Schools, Smart Systems: PBIS & the New MA Behavioral Regulations

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 and school leaders to implement school-wide Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) in full compliance with the updated 603 CMR 46.00 behavioral regulations. Participants develop expertise in prevention-first discipline, Functional Behavioral Assessment, Behavior Intervention Planning, and the legal and ethical requirements governing restraint and seclusion in Massachusetts schools. n Framework and 603 CMR 46.00. ; 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. Implement a Tier 1 PBIS framework that establishes positive school-wide behavioral expectations aligned to 603 CMR 46.00's prevention-first philosophy.
2. Conduct or review a Functional Behavioral Assessment (FBA) using Massachusetts-approved procedures.
3. Develop a legally compliant Behavior Intervention Plan (BIP) that prioritizes positive, proactive strategies.
4. Apply 603 CMR 46.00 requirements for documentation, family notification, and oversight of behavioral interventions.
5. Design classroom prevention strategies that reduce behavioral escalation and support students with emotional and behavioral needs.