



Engaging Curriculum in a Caring Environment

Instructor: Becky Hacker-Kluver

Licensure Renewal Credit: 1 credit

This course is offered by MISIC and is approved for licensure renewal credit only upon successful completion of all the components. The course is not approved as credit toward an endorsement or new teaching authority. Transcripts and credit will be issued by MISIC.

This course is presented in a self-paced format. Participants, whether individually or as learning team, are expected to make reasonable progress through the components. In order to accommodate the participant's work schedule and professional setting, no due dates are attached to the individual components except for the final due date.

Dates: July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025

Course Description (Overview of Course)

This course will assist you in understanding the characteristics of Generation Z learners and why instruction needs to change to meet the needs of our Generation Z learners. You will learn/relearn what it takes to develop the expectations, routines, and procedures for an effective, safe, and caring classroom as well as determining the vision, expected behaviors, and positive classroom expectations for an effective, safe, and caring classroom. You will also learn and/or revisit some instructional strategies to engage students in their learning.

School Improvement Rationale (School data that indicates a need for this course).

All the standards shall be met by schools and school districts for accreditation. With the high expectations that the standards present, teachers need strategies to assist students in reaching the standards. Many teachers in our MISIC districts need continued training of instructional strategies to engage our Generation Z learners.

Expected Outcomes: The learner will be able to...

Those who complete all components of the course will be able to:

- Understand the characteristics of Generation Z learners
- Understand the “why” instruction needs to change to meet the needs of our Generation Z learners
- Review and understand what it takes to develop the expectations, routines, and procedures for an effective, safe, and caring classroom
- Determine the vision, expected behaviors, and positive classroom expectations for an effective, safe, and caring classroom
- Understand what the brain science is telling us about what makes learning stick.
- Determine and identify the strategies and/or ideas that you are currently using in your own practice and/or could be using around the six trumps of engagement
- Learn and/or relearn some instructional strategies to engage students in their learning
- Integrate some new instructional strategies into classroom instruction

Note: Success criteria for each component are identified for each micro-credential component below.

Micro-Credential Component*	Micro-Credential Description	Hours
Thinking About Our Generation Z Learners—Who are They?	You will learn about the shifts that our current generation of learners (Born between 2001 and 2018) are experiencing, as well as ways to refine your teaching to meet their needs. Just a couple examples for you . . . While Generation Y grew up during a strong economy, Generation Z is growing up in a time of recession, terrorism, violence, volatility, and complexity. While Generation Y subscribed to everything social, Generation Z doesn't want to be tracked, preferring Snapchat, Secret, or Whisper to communicate.	3 Hours

Success Criteria for this micro-credential:

- Provide some ideas on what you know about various generations including your personal generation and your parents' generation.
- Understand some of the characteristics of Generation Z learners and how instruction can be designed to meet the needs of these learners

Micro-Credential Component*	Micro-Credential Description	Hours
Creating a Respectful, Positive, Safe, Effective, and Student-Centered Environment	According to Harry Wong, effective teachers demonstrate a deep understanding of the curriculum. They plan, teach, and assess to promote mastery for all students. Effective teachers provide a respectful, positive, safe, and student-centered environment. In this micro-credential, you will revisit the process of creating the student-centered environment.	4 Hours

Success Criteria for this micro-credential

- Reflect on what make a classroom a caring, engaging classroom.
- Develop a caring environment for your classroom, a vision for your classroom, define the three to five expected behaviors for your classroom, and develop a chart showing the positive classroom expectations that can be used in your classroom.

Micro-Credential Component*	Micro-Credential Description	Hours
Engagement of Students: What Makes Learning Stick?	<p>We want our students to take in, store, retrieve, and use the information that we are teaching and/or facilitating. What are some ways we can do this? Through this micro-credential, you will learn about the six learning principles that trump other types of principles that Sharon Bowman shares in her book and other resources. (When one learning strategy trumps another, it means that it is a better, more powerful way to learn than the other.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Movement trumps sitting. • Talking trumps listening. • Images trump words. • Writing trumps reading. • Shorter trumps longer. • Different trumps same. 	4 hours

Success Criteria for this micro-credential:

- Understand the six trumps of what makes learning stick
- Identify ways to apply the information into classroom instruction

Micro-Credential Component*	Micro-Credential Description	Hours
Instructional Strategies That Will Engage Your Learners	<p>As Dr. Spencer Kagan states, “We have a choice. We can teach in ways that align with how brains naturally learn. If we do, our students learn more, learn more quickly, retain and recall more, and enjoy learning more. Many traditional teaching methods do not align well with how our brains learn. Without changing what we teach, we can change how we teach in ways that make teaching and learning dramatically more efficient.” Through this micro-credential, you will learn/relearn many strategies to engage learners.</p>	4 hours

Success Criteria for this micro-credential:

- Try a few instructional strategies with students and then reflect upon what worked, didn’t work, etc.
- Develop a lesson plan using some new instructional strategies

Iowa Teaching Standards

Check which number(s) of the Iowa Teaching Standards that connect to the work defined in this course:

- ✓ Standard 1: Demonstrates ability to enhance academic performance and support for implementation of the school district's student achievement goals.
- Standard 2: Demonstrates competence in content knowledge appropriate to the teaching position
- ✓ Standard 3: Demonstrates competence in planning and preparing for instruction.
- ✓ Standard 4: Uses strategies to deliver instruction that meets the multiple learning needs of students.
- Standard 5: Uses a variety of methods to monitor student learning.
- ✓ Standard 6: Demonstrates competence in classroom management.
- Standard 7: Engages in professional growth
- Standard 8: Fulfills professional responsibilities established by the school district.