

IND-1242A:

8 Habits of Highly Effective People for Teachers

Course Syllabus

- **Instructor: Dr. Maryam Torbati**
- **Number of Credits/Units: 3 Semester Credits/Units**
- **Format: Online Self-Paced Course**
- **You will have 6 months from your date of registration to complete the course.**

Course Overview:

Over the past three decades author Stephen Covey's *7 Habits of Highly Effective People* has led teachers to effectiveness in their lives and in their classroom. Now, the 8th habit ramps that effectiveness up and turns it into greatness. As author Stephen Covey says, "Habits are powerful factors in our lives. Because they are consistent, often unconscious patterns, they constantly, daily, express our character and produce our effectiveness...or ineffectiveness." This workshop course builds on the seven habits of being and effective teacher to becoming not just an effective teacher but becoming a great teacher.

Referring to teachers, Stephen Covey suggests that they should constantly question what they are teaching in the classroom. If they understand the big picture that as a teacher, when they empower students with leadership tools, they do not have to be the ultimate decision maker(s). The students will also be in a leadership position. According to Covey, we have to learn how to adapt and get comfortable with the idea of change and promote a culture of sharing leadership with students.

Course Objectives:

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate a deep knowledge of the 8 habits and performance-based approaches to effective learning.
2. State a clear definition of your top priorities and the results you want.
3. Develop strong relationships based on mutual trust.

4. Be prepared to deal with difficult circumstances before they happen.
5. Apply a variety of strategies to bring and enhance the 8 habits to your learning, teaching, and problem-solving skills.
6. Discuss and identify the 8 habits and how they align to common core standards.
7. Implement the 8 habits in reading, language arts, math, science, social studies, and many other subjects.
8. Teach the 8 habits for deep learning as it relates to obtaining and maintaining excellence.
9. Identify the 8 habits and how they work step by step.
10. Identify major benefits of using the 8 habits.
11. Discuss problem solving using the 8 habits.
12. Describe how this can help ELD & Special Ed students.
13. Summarize the importance of the 8 habits in the classroom.
14. Formulate questions about aspects of the 8 habits and why are they important.
15. Analyze how learners learn and how the 8 habits can help.
16. Create appropriate materials to teach the 8 habits.
17. Align all of these to Common Core.

Recommended Optional Textbooks:

- Covey, S. (1989) *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People*. Simon & Schuster: New York.
- Covey, S. (2014) *The 8th Habit: From Effectiveness to Greatness*. Free Press: New York.
- Covey, S. and Curtis, S. (2012) *The 7 Habits of Happy Kids*.

CCSS Standards for The 8 Habits of Highly Effective People for Teachers:

- Describe and define the 8 habits
- Recognize and apply the 8 habits step by step
- Create habitual learning environments.
- Compare & contrast 7 habits vs the 8th habit.

- Development of critical thinking based on the 7 habits and why they are important to learning
- Why the 8th habit is beneficial to learning.
- Explore why habits are important in teaching and learning.

Takeaways – What this course gives you:

- Motivation to take initiative.
- A vision, mission, and values in your teaching.
- Ability to balance key priorities.
- Improved interpersonal communications.
- Leverage to creative collaboration.
- Strategies for relating the 8 habits to Common Core.
- A focus on how students are thinking and how they are growing as thinkers and learners.
- Insight on ways students develop problem-solving through the 8 habits.
- A vision of building classrooms based on real life problems.
- Information on the expression of multiple perspectives about your problem solving through the 8 habits.
- Strategies for going beyond the classroom and text to connect with students' lives.
- Methods of classrooms participate in self-reflection and self-evaluation.
- Tools to help teachers shape timely instructional strategies targeted to immediate student needs.

Assignments

Assignment 1.1 Reflection and Goals

Reflect on your past experience with The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People and describe your future goals for enhancing learning through The 8 habits covered in the course.

Assignment 2.1: Readings/videos to acquaint you with The 8 Habits of Highly Effective People for Teachers

This assignment will help you to understand and reflect on what you have read about and viewed and how you can transfer this knowledge to your classroom.

Assignment 3.1: The 8 Habits Tools for Pre-Planning

Produce creative activities for implementing the 8 habits in your teaching curriculum.

Assignment 4.1 & 4.2: Lesson Plan and Presentation

Create a detailed, multi-paged, 3-Day lesson plan for applying the 8 habits in the classroom.

Create a 10-slide *PowerPoint* project based on the course readings, to present to an audience of peers.

Forum Posting

Share your experience with other course participants.