

Engaging Hearts and Minds: Service-Learning Grad Class & "Film Festival" Level 2+

Beginning Jan. 2021

Online/Hybrid Graduate Credit/CEU Course

Sponsored by Upper Arlington Schools and Martha Holden Jennings Foundation

Facilitated by Ellen Erlanger and Kathy Meyer, Partnerships Make A Difference

As in previous years, our Level 2+ class members will share their ideas, perspectives, and experiences re: service-learning and related strategies. But this year, **we want participants to vividly see, feel, and reflect upon the impact of authentic learning strategies** in new and different ways. Toward that end, **we're taking a "film festival" approach to this year's class**, and you are **welcome to participate in one, several, or all of our screenings and reflection sessions**. It's our goal that each session will be lively, collaborative, thought-provoking, and uplifting. (We can all use that now, right?)

The Driving/Essential Questions for the series will be: *How can we use service-learning and other authentic instructional strategies to enhance emotional engagement, strengthen community-building, and support academic success? How can we use these strategies to integrate rigor, relevance, and relationships throughout students' experiences? What can we learn from colleagues/exemplars who have succeeded in these areas?*

What:

Class sessions will feature film/video segments designed to inform and inspire teachers re: the use of authentic instructional strategies (service-learning, PBL, STEM, design thinking, etc.). In the case of longer films/videos, participants will be asked to view these in advance so that class time can be devoted to discussion and reflection. Related readings may also be recommended in connection with each session.

If you have seen a particular film before, we hope you'll consider revisiting it with this year's group. Different people bring fresh perspectives, and each film is well worth viewing again.

Participants in this hybrid (Zoom and Google Classroom) course will consider the importance of service-learning and other forms of authentic instruction during this chaotic time, whether we have school closures, blended learning, or "school as normal." We know that all educators (and parents) are concerned for the social/emotional well-being of their students/kids, so it is important to reflect upon instructional strategies that can help meet the needs of our young people. **Please join us for this course, and share this opportunity with those who might be interested as well!**

How & When:

For participants who attend all sessions in the series, the course will offer 2 hours of Ashland University graduate credit or at least 25 contact hours certification. It is designed as a hybrid course, so six sessions will be scheduled as Zoom calls, and participants will contribute their ideas and insights as part of a dedicated Google Classroom for this course. Each participant will log his/her hours of individual or collaborative work.

Participants can also elect to attend single sessions according to their interest and availability. Those who attend fewer than six sessions will log their hours of class-related work and be awarded contact hour certificates at the end of the course.

Zoom class sessions will be 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm, January 6, February 10, March 24, March 31, April 14, and April 28, 2021. Please hold May 5, 2021 as an alternative date if needed.



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"Engaging Hearts and Minds" . . . Level 2+ (Choose to attend any or all sessions.)

January 6, 2021, 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm

"Success Stories, Part 1"—Focus on Emotional Engagement . . . Video vignettes of outstanding SL initiatives and how they have achieved exemplary outcomes in social/emotional learning, academic success, and other areas of student growth. Reflecting on these examples will provide a framework for participants' own work in service-learning and related instructional strategies. Time will be provided for related brainstorming and planning.

February 10, 2021, 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm

"Beyond Measure"— Focus on Vision, Innovation and School Transformation . . . Excerpts from a highly regarded documentary that follows a new vanguard of educators across the country who are pioneering a fresh vision for American schools. Pulling from expert research in education, child development, and cognitive and neuroscience, these leaders are creating a new type of classroom. They're leading schools that redirect our focus away from homework, prizes, top grades and test scores. And they're making room for authenticity, curiosity, engagement, creativity, collaboration and independent thinking. By putting innovative models into practice, they're finding inspiration in doing things differently - and changing how and what we teach. [This description is from IMDb.]

March 24, 2021, 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm

"The Last Lecture"—Focus on Personal and Professional Legacy . . . Lessons learned from an outstanding educator who used hope, humor, and authentic learning to make a difference in students' lives. Participants will reflect on his mission and legacy, as well as their own.

March 31, 2021, 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm

"Paper Clips"—Focus on Community Involvement and Learning That Lasts . . . An award-winning documentary featuring an exceptional project about tolerance — an initiative that began simply, but led to remarkable, far-reaching, and lasting impact.

April 14, 2021, 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm

"Freedom Writers"—Focus on Student Voice . . . A feature film based on the true story of a Los Angeles teacher who reached her disaffected students by building relationships, providing rich, authentic learning experiences, and ensuring "voice" for students' thoughts and feelings. The subject matter focuses on diversity, tolerance, and "coming of age."

April 28, 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm

"Success Stories, Part 2"—Focus on Truer, Deeper Learning . . . NEW vignettes of successful SL initiatives and how they have achieved exemplary outcomes in social/emotional learning, academic success, and other areas of student growth. Hopefully, these will be examples captured during the current school year. Time will be provided for related brainstorming and planning, including "next steps" for the 2021-2022 school year.

**** Hold May 5, 2021 (if alternative date is needed).**

How to register: Use this Doodle link to register for any or all sessions you plan to attend: https://doodle.com/poll/2h8tns6cdvv6mhez?utm_source=poll&utm_medium=link. Participants who want Ashland credit must attend all 6 sessions. Email kathy@partnershipsmakeadifference.org stating that you would like to join "Engaging Hearts and Minds": Level 2+. Please include your name, position, school, district, work email, and a **personal email that ends in @gmail**. We can't invite you to our Google Classroom using an email with your school domain even if it is a gmail account. Our Google Classroom will include all handouts and films. Contact hour certification is provided **free of charge**. **Ashland University tuition is \$360.00 for 2 semester hours of graduate credit.** Ashland registration information will be discussed during the first Zoom class session. Contact Ellen Erlanger, 614.226.2115, Kathy Meyer, 614.323.3741, or kathy@partnershipsmakeadifference.org with any questions.