

CLASSROOM CULTURE

**PART 1: Overview Questions**

**Instructional Context Overview**

**Please tell us a little bit about the educational environment you were observing to complete this micro-credential.**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Type of school/program and the grade/subject configuration  (single grade, YMCA afterschool program, etc.) | | |
|  | | |
| Grade | Age Level | Number of Students |
|  |  |  |
| Course | | |
|  | | |
| How long have you been working with this class in an educator role prior to the featured lesson(s) examined in the micro-credential submission? | | |
|  | | |

**Briefly and specifically describe relevant:**

|  |
| --- |
| State or district mandates that impact the featured lesson |
|  |
| Type of community |
|  |
| Access to current technology |
|  |
| Your relationship with the teacher you observed |
|  |
| Any other information you believe would be important for scorers to know to understand your micro-credential submission |
|  |

**My Perspective Essay**

Describe two past experiences you have had as a learner in which your teacher succeeded in facilitating a sustainable, equitable classroom culture. Describe specific strategies the teacher implemented to do this and what that meant for you and your peers. Use the *Teaching Tolerance* five critical components of classroom culture as a guide for framing the experiences the teacher facilitated.

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| --- |
| Essay |
| *500-word maximum* |

**PART 2: Artifacts**

**Observation Notes**

Use the spaces on this form to type up the notes that you wrote while conducting observations during your visits to the learning spaces. Your notes should relate directly to the critical components in each section.

Tips to make your note-taking most effective:

* **Focus on the critical components of classroom culture**. It's impossible to document everything you observe! Stay focused on what matters, and avoid cluttering your notes with information that isn’t relevant to examples of how the classroom culture is developed or maintained.
* **Be specific and descriptive**. Use descriptive words to document what you observe. You can even include quotes from the teacher or students that bring these concepts   
  to life.
* **Make note of your insights and thoughts as you observe.** As you observe, jot down why you are making note of each activity, quote, classroom set-up, etc. You could simply write “ex. of honoring student experience.” This will help you remember the importance of the event when you write your notes or essays later.

**Observation Notes: Visit #1**

|  |
| --- |
| Date of Observation |
|  |
| Honoring Student Experience |
|  |
| Thoughtful Classroom Setup and Structure |
|  |
| Shared Inquiry and Dialogue |
|  |
| Social and Emotional Safety |
|  |
| Values Based Behavior Management |
|  |
| Other Notes on Visit #1 |
|  |

**Observation Notes: Visit #2**

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| --- |
| Date of Observation |
|  |
| Honoring Student Experience |
|  |
| Thoughtful Classroom Setup and Structure |
|  |
| Shared Inquiry and Dialogue |
|  |
| Social and Emotional Safety |
|  |
| Values Based Behavior Management |
|  |
| Other Notes on Visit #2 |
|  |

**PART 3: Reflection**

**My Reflection Essay**

Respond in a fully developed essay to the following guiding questions to reflect on classroom culture:

* In what specific ways did the learning space you observed succeed as maintaining an equitable classroom culture? In what specific ways did it fall short?
* What are your recommendations to strengthen the classroom culture in the learning space you observed?
* What are your specific plans to prepare yourself to implement and sustain an equitable classroom culture in the future when you have the main responsibility for a learning space?

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| --- |
| Essay |
| *500-word maximum* |