

Assertive Discipline[®] and Beyond

GRADES K–12

GRADUATE CREDIT: 3 SEMESTER HOURS

Educators learn how to create a safe, positive learning environment where students behave responsibly and take accountability for their conduct. They explore strategies to organize and manage the classroom with increased confidence and a calm sense of control. Through the course, educators discover how to create a learning environment in which their students can excel, and in which they can go home feeling a sense of accomplishment.

This course is designed for K–12 teachers, special-subject teachers, administrators, counselors, resource teachers, and substitutes.

COURSE TOPICS

- Considering your role and beliefs
- The power of being an assertive teacher
- Establishing positive relationships with students
- The assertive discipline plan: rules, positive support, corrective actions, and introducing the plan
- Teaching responsible behavior and explicit directions
- Using positive feedback and redirection techniques
- Implementing corrective actions
- Teaching with assertive discipline and evaluating your plan
- Handling severe behavior problems
- Getting parental support for your discipline plan
- Getting administrative support for your discipline efforts
- Adapting assertive discipline: creating a personal discipline approach
- Motivating students to behave—how instruction impacts classroom discipline

COURSE OUTCOMES

By the end of the course, educators will:

- Analyze common issues and factors that influence decisions about classroom management.
- Gain an understanding of the Assertive Discipline[®] approach to behavior management.
- Apply strategies to overcome roadblocks to being assertive.
- Identify methods for and benefits of building positive relationships with students and make a plan for using those methods in the classroom.
- Evaluate classroom rules for effectiveness using Assertive Discipline guidelines.
- Determine types of positive support to recognize appropriate behavior and motivate all students to follow classroom rules.
- Determine corrective actions for students who choose not to follow classroom rules.
- Combine their rules, positive support, and corrective actions to complete their Assertive Discipline Plan.
- Communicate the discipline plan to their students, administrator, and parents.
- Explain how to apply specific corrective actions and techniques to a particular discipline problem, including the Moving-In strategy.
- Diagnose and analyze a problem with an Assertive Discipline Plan and determine a plan of action to improve the plan's effectiveness.
- Identify effective responses to severe behavior problems based on Assertive Discipline guidelines.
- Determine a three-step plan of action for a student with chronic severe behavior problems to change the misbehavior.
- Discuss strategies for effective communication with parents on behavior issues and determine a plan of action to gain parent support for your discipline efforts.
- Determine a plan of action to gain an administrator's support for their discipline efforts and an administrator's support for positive recognition of students.

METHODS OF ASSESSMENT

This course provides numerous opportunities to apply research-based concepts and theory to practical teaching situations. Assessment is conducted in the following ways:

- **Activities** are short assessments that help educators explore concepts and make connections between the content and their teaching practice. Some activities are ungraded but serve to prepare educators for other graded assignments. Any ungraded activities are clearly marked as such.
- **Study Team Discussions (print & DVD) or Dialogue Summaries (online)** allow educators to share ideas about the course content with other teachers, then ask them to analyze and summarize the discussion and then describe how their understanding of the topic has been enhanced or expanded.
- **Applications** assist educators in applying the theories, concepts, and strategies to their teaching practice.
- **Quizzes** provide educators with instant feedback (online only) on their understanding of the course material. There are three quizzes, each reviewing several sections of content.
- The **Final Reflection** requires educators to synthesize the content and reflect on their key learnings throughout the course.

COURSE MATERIALS AND FORMAT

Course texts, websites, and journal articles help facilitate learning and transfer theory into practice. Video programs feature interviews with nationally recognized education experts. Classroom scenes provide a view into the classrooms of master teachers who demonstrate the strategies taught in the course. This course is offered in two distance-learning formats: print & DVD and online. Educators select one format when they enroll.

PRINT & DVD FORMAT

Educators in the print & DVD version of the course receive printed materials to facilitate their learning. This version of the course requires educators to form a study team. The educator must have at least one study partner or peer coach, preferably another educator, to complete activities, engage in discussion, and seek feedback. It is not necessary that the study partner be enrolled in the course. Educators enrolled in the print & DVD version should have Internet access in order to connect with the many websites that are offered as learning resources. Assignments are submitted via email. The print & DVD course includes:

- The print study guide:
 - *Assertive Discipline® and Beyond*
- Two sets of DVDs are included, one for elementary and one for secondary teachers:
 - Laureate Education, Inc. (Executive Producer). (2009). *Assertive discipline and beyond*. Baltimore: Executive Producer.
- The course textbook(s):
 - Canter, L. (2010). *Lee Canter's Assertive discipline: Positive behavior management for today's classroom* (4th ed.). Solution Tree: Bloomington, IN.
- The other required readings

ONLINE FORMAT

Educators in the online version of the course access the course content via an online classroom. Educators are required to participate in virtual discussions with fellow educators via a discussion board. The course textbook is shipped to educators, but the video programs and other resources are available within the online classroom. Assignments are submitted through the online classroom. The online course includes:

- Access to the online classroom for:
 - *Assertive Discipline® and Beyond*
- Access to the video programs in the online classroom as well as backup DVDs, one for elementary and one for secondary teachers:
 - Laureate Education, Inc. (Executive Producer). (2009). *Assertive discipline and beyond*. Baltimore: Executive Producer.
- The course textbook(s):
 - Canter, L. (2010). *Lee Canter's Assertive discipline: Positive behavior management for today's classroom* (4th ed.). Solution Tree: Bloomington, IN.
- Access to the other required readings

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS FOR ONLINE COURSE FORMAT:

- Operating system for PC: Windows® XP, Windows Vista®, or Windows® 7
- Operating system for Mac®: OS X or higher
- Processor: 1 GHz, 32/64 bit or higher
- Memory: Minimum 512 MB of RAM; 1 GB recommended
- Browser: Microsoft Internet Explorer® 6.0 or higher; Firefox® 3.6 (also for Mac®: Apple® Safari® 4 or higher)
- Internet connection: Broadband (DSL, cable modem, or similar) required
- Software: Microsoft Word®, Adobe® Flash® Player 7 or higher (free), Adobe® Acrobat® Reader® version 8 or higher (free)
- Monitor resolution: 1280 x 800 pixels or higher

Note: If you are using a Macintosh®, please be sure to download Mozilla® Firefox® 3.6. It's free, and the download should take only a few minutes at www.mozilla.org.

Trademark Information

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- Adobe, Flash, and Acrobat Reader are registered trademarks of Adobe Systems Incorporated in the United States and/or other countries.

EDUCATION EXPERT

Lee Canter, M.S.W.

Lee Canter is a nationally recognized expert in behavior management. His programs have helped over one million educators create more harmonious classroom and school environments, where teachers can teach and students can achieve greater success. He is the author of numerous books, including *Assertive Discipline®*, *The High-Performing Teacher®*, *Classroom Management for Academic Success*, and *Succeeding with Difficult Students®*.



ABOUT CANTER

Canter, a subsidiary of Laureate Education, Inc., is committed to serving the educational community with high-quality, graduate-level courses that blend research-based theory with practical strategies. Canter began with one groundbreaking guide on managing behavior in the classroom and, more than 35 years later, has helped more than 300,000 educators address the most critical issues in education while advancing their careers.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information about Canter graduate-level courses, visit www.Canter.net or call 1-800-669-9011.

ABOUT OUR PARTNERSHIP

Canter offers its courses in partnership with Walden University, allowing you to benefit from Canter’s quality curriculum in a self-paced format, while earning graduate credit from a leading accredited university.* The course curriculum is developed and designed by Canter in collaboration with national education experts, while graduate credit is granted through Walden University, which assesses student work. Credit may be applicable for certification renewal and/or salary advancement.[†] Course credit may be transferable with prior approval from the university providing your advanced degree or planned program.

Walden University

The Richard W. Riley College of Education and Leadership at Walden University is a **National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE)**–accredited college dedicated to enhancing educator effectiveness. As a recognized standard of excellence in professional education for the preparation of teachers, administrators, and other pre-K–12 school professionals, NCATE accreditation ensures the college has met rigorous national standards set by the profession and members of the public.

The college, named for the former Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education, was identified by *U.S. News & World Report* as having the largest online graduate program in education by enrollment (May 2010). Walden students were awarded the fourth most TEACH Grants to students nationwide in 2010–2011, according to the U.S. Department of Education. The choice of more than 53,000 students and alumni, including more than 80 state teachers of the year, the college is also a proud partner of the National Education Association (NEA) Academy and a year-round sponsor of the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC).

Walden University is accredited by The Higher Learning Commission and a member of the North Central Association, www.ncahlc.org. Canter and Walden University are both subsidiaries of Laureate Education, Inc.

*Prospective Washington state students are advised to contact the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction at 1-360-725-6275 or prof.educ@k12.wa.us to determine whether Walden’s programs in the field of education are approved for teacher certification or endorsements in Washington state. Additionally, teachers are advised to contact their individual school district as to whether this program may qualify for salary advancement.

[†]It is each student’s responsibility to check with his or her state/district and evaluate and understand any requirements related to the use of individual courses for any purpose.