Unit Plan 7: Creating Effective Learning Environments

# Introduction

This document provides teachers with a unit planning template.

# Course and Unit Information

This section provides information about the course, grade level, and timeframe of instruction.

* Course Name: Instructional Practices
* Grade Level(s)**:** 11-12
* TimeFrame (# of Minutes/Periods)**:** 1350 Minutes/15 90-Minute Periods

# Unit Overview

Students will research, compare, and present classroom management techniques and explain effective classroom seating arrangements for various grades and activities. Students will research, compare, and model conflict management techniques, including student-driven models, and analyze and evaluate various classroom situations and the best conflict-management techniques to employ in these situations. Students will create lists of helpful classroom and conflict management resources and strategies for their field-based experience and future careers.

Students will research culture proficiency and self-assess their own, and research and model characteristics that will promote positive student-teacher relationships and an effective learning environment.

During their field-based experience classroom observations and activities, students will identify teacher characteristics and classroom-management techniques that promote an effective learning environment and describe and explain their observations and experiences to the class. During their field-based experiences, students will demonstrate professional appearance, language, and cultural proficiency, as well as a willingness to accept and apply constructive feedback.

As a culminating activity, students will brainstorm and discuss what a safe and effective learning environment looks like from different perspectives, and model/role play promoting a safe and effective learning environment for different grade levels, abilities, activities, and needs.

# Unit PLan

The two-column table in this section contains unit planning elements in the first column, and details about the element in the second column.

## Unit Plan Table

| **Section** | **Information** |
| --- | --- |
| **TEKS (CTE)** | **130.164. (c) Knowledge and skills**  (6) The student creates an effective learning environment. The student is expected to:  (A) describe and implement a safe and an effective learning environment;  (B) demonstrate teacher and trainer characteristics that promote an effective learning environment;  (C) identify classroom-management techniques that promote an effective learning environment; and  (D) demonstrate conflict-management and mediation techniques supportive of an effective learning environment. |
| **Unit Question** | * What are qualities of an effective learning environment? |
| **Essential Content Questions** | * What classroom management techniques will be most effective for the grades you plan to teach? * What conflict-management strategies and techniques can you see yourself utilizing in your career? * How will you demonstrate cultural proficiency and promote positive student-teacher relationships? * How would you promote a safe and effective learning environment for different grade levels, abilities, activities, and needs? |
| **Unit Learning Objectives**  **(What student will know and be able to do)** | **Students will be able to:**   * Compare and present classroom management techniques * Compare and model conflict-management techniques * Analyze and evaluate conflict-management techniques * Research and discuss cultural proficiency * Discuss what a safe and effective learning environment looks like from different perspectives * Demonstrate appropriate professional appearance, language, and cultural proficiency * Demonstrate a willingness to accept and apply constructive feedback given during their field experience |
| **Assessments**  **(Performance Tasks)** | **Students will be able to:**   * Model/role play promoting a safe and effective learning environment * Create, present, and explain effective classroom seating arrangements for various grades and activities * Create lists of helpful resources and strategies for creating effective learning environments for use in their field-experience, teaching portfolio, and future careers in the teaching and training profession * Self-assess their cultural proficiency |
| **Evaluative Criteria**  **(Rubric)** | * Resources and Strategies Rubric * Cultural Proficiency Self-Assessment * Presentation Rubric |
| **Vocabulary** | * Advocacy * Classroom management * Conflict management * Cultural proficiency * Empathy * Mediation * Person-First Language * Perspective * Strategy * Technique |
| **Resources** | * **Classroom Management**   <https://books.apa.org/education/k12/classroom-mgmt.aspx>   * **Developing Responsible and Autonomous Learners**   <https://books.apa.org/education/k12/learners.aspx>   * **IDEA: Key Issues in Discipline**   <http://www.parentcenterhub.org/partb-module19/>   * **How to Help a Traumatized Child in the Classroom**   <https://greatergood.berkeley.edu/article/item/the_silent_epidemic_in_our_classrooms>   * **Innovative Learning Environments (9 videos/each 2:30 to 7:00 minutes)**   <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLvzOwE5lWqhQ8D0m_371INljdki3RcVRb>   * **4 Effective Strategies for Conflict Management**   <https://education.cu-portland.edu/blog/classroom-resources/4-effective-conflict-resolution-strategies-in-the-classroom/>   * **Creating an Inclusive Classroom**   <http://www.washington.edu/teaching/teaching-resources/inclusive-teaching-at-uw/inclusive-teaching-strategies/>  **Creating Digital Citizens**  **NetSmartz**  <https://www.netsmartz.org/ActivityCards>  **Webonauts**  <http://pbskids.org/webonauts/about/educators.html>  **Digital Reputation**  <http://commondatastorage.googleapis.com/ikeepsafe/Project-Pro/Digital%20Reputation-Privacy%20and%20Reputation%20Online%20Resourcse%20for%20Educators.pdf>  **Edutopia**  **The Power of Empathy**  <https://www.edutopia.org/article/power-empathy>  **Aiming for Discipline Instead of Punishment**  <https://www.edutopia.org/article/aiming-discipline-instead-punishment>  **Secret Admirers and Classroom Management**  <https://www.edutopia.org/article/secret-admirers-and-classroom-management>  **6 Strategies for Promoting Student Autonomy**  <https://www.edutopia.org/article/6-strategies-promoting-student-autonomy>  **Supporting Students with Chronic Trauma**  <https://www.edutopia.org/article/supporting-students-chronic-trauma>  **Helping High Schoolers Manage Emotions**  <https://www.edutopia.org/video/helping-high-schoolers-manage-emotions>  **Classroom Management: 3 Important Big Picture Questions**  <https://www.edutopia.org/blog/classroom-management-big-picture-questions-mary-beth-hertz>  **Classroom Management: Practical Suggestions**  <https://www.edutopia.org/community-classroom-management>  **Classroom Management: Resource Roundup**  <https://www.edutopia.org/article/classroom-management-resources>  **New Teachers: Designing Learning Environments**  <https://www.edutopia.org/article/new-teachers-designing-classroom-learning-environment-resources> |
| **Notes** |  |