



Faculty of Education

Education 6463 (3 credit hours)

***Relationships First: Rethinking Educational Engagement***

*(formerly ED 6936: Restorative Justice in Education: Promises & Challenges)*

**Faculty of Education**

**Memorial University of Newfoundland**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

*Relationships First: Rethinking Educational Engagement* examines the fundamental principles and practices of relational restorative justice approaches in the context of current education theory and philosophy. Content focuses on an examination of educational engagement as understood through the lens of relational theory. Particularly suited to the complexities of the day, this course is an exploration and analysis of current relational, restorative justice education theories and practices in school contexts locally, nationally, and internationally. As a comprehensive alternative to dominant schooling, relational engagement offers significant potential for renewed perspectives on safe and caring school policies, inclusion policies, and classroom dynamics as well as for curriculum content and design, pedagogy, and assessment. Drawing on ancient and contemporary Indigenous and spiritual traditions, it also explores the recommendations in the recent Truth and Reconciliation Report (2016). As students examine both the promises and challenges associated with educational engagement through relational restorative justice education, they will also experience and practice its various pedagogies in assignments and class activities.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

This course will provide participants opportunities to:

- 1) explore ancient and contemporary origins and philosophies of restorative justice and its influence on current educational context;
- 2) compare and analyze pedagogies and practices of restorative justice with traditional pedagogies and practices.
- 3) examine emerging restorative justice approaches in schools, locally, nationally and internationally.
- 4) experience, practice, and critique restorative justice pedagogy.

Winter 2017-2018 course will be run on St. John's campus from January -April on 6 alternate full day Saturdays from 8:30-3:30. Specific dates include: January 6, 20; Feb. 3, 17; March 3, 17, (April 7—make-up day in the event of a cancelled class) with final paper/project due by April 7. Specific room location TBA.

**To register for Winter 2017-2018 semester, contact:**

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