

Course Title: Manage It All: Students, Curriculum, and Time

Presenters: Debbie Silver

Length: 15 hours

Course Description:

Effective teachers successfully navigate their students' often-unpredictable classroom behavior; they establish a classroom environment that facilitates learning; they differentiate instruction and assessment; they facilitate learning through cooperative groups; and they find time to meet their personal goals. How do they do it all? Veteran teacher Dr. Debbie Silver shares her classroom management techniques and strategies as she explains how the teacher sets the tone and climate of the classroom. Educators will learn to head off discipline problems before they occur using student-centered discipline techniques. With strategies in place for managing the classroom, Dr. Silver shifts to designing high-quality curriculum, integrating standards, using backwards design principles, and developing activities suited to different learning styles. Dr. Silver explains how she uses "discrepant events" to challenge students' prior assumptions, a technique that improves learning and increases retention. Using zone of proximal development strategies, educators learn to develop activities that are attainable but just beyond their students' reach. Educators learn to use cooperative learning as a teaching strategy, where the teacher's role shifts from direct instruction to facilitation. Using this approach, teachers reinforce concepts, clarify directions, encourage students, and affirm positive group interactions. To motivate students, teachers will learn to use intrinsic rewards, which prepare students for lifelong learning and success rather than extrinsic rewards, which are generally short lived. Finally, because teachers never have enough time in the day to do everything, they will learn how to evaluate and prioritize their own activities, delegate, and make time to reach their personal and professional goals. Designed for new and veteran teachers, this course provides timesaving strategies, practical tips, and great ideas for all teachers to create an effective learning environment for their students.

Course Objective:

After completing this course, educators will know:

- The effect that educators have on creating the classroom climate
- How to use voice, body language, and words for managing student behavior
- Backwards design strategies
- How to use cooperative learning
- The difference between extrinsic and intrinsic rewards

- The definition of task-contingent, performance-contingent, and success-contingent rewards
- How to set up activities and assignments that give all students a reasonable chance to success

- How to categorize activities based on urgency and importance

After completing this course, educators will be able to apply the following skills:

- Create a discipline policy that holds students accountable
- Develop procedures for handling ongoing disruptive behavior
- Plan lessons using the backwards design principles, beginning with desired results
- Use differentiated instruction and assessment
- Develop cooperative learning activities and grading practices that hold all students accountable
- Promote self-efficacy skills and positive mindset in the classroom
- Avoid using inappropriate praise
- Develop activities and assignments giving all students a reasonable chance to succeed
- Become a reflective practitioner by evaluating teaching strategies and their impact on students
- Evaluate activities based on importance and say “no” to activities that don’t meet priorities

Session Topics (8):

1. Classroom Management: Lion Taming 101, Part 1
2. Classroom Management: Lion Taming 101, Part 2
3. Effective Teachers: Great Teaching Tips. Part 1
4. Effective Teachers: Great Teaching Tips. Part 2
5. Cooperative Learning: Groups that Really Work!
6. Rewards for Classroom Management: What Do I Get For Doing It?
7. How to Engage Disenfranchised Learners: Going Outside the Lines
8. Time Management for Educators: Desperately Seeking a "Round Tuit"

Presenter Overview:

Dr. Debbie Silver has 30 years experience as a classroom teacher, staff development instructor, and university professor. A Louisiana State Teacher of the Year, Dr. Silver has been an invited author for several educational journals and has given keynotes at state, national, and international conferences in 49 states, Canada, Europe, and Asia. A featured teacher for the PBS OnLine Teacher Chat, Silver has authored *Drumming to the Beat of Different Marchers: Finding the Rhythm for Teaching Differentiated Learning*, which has been updated and re-released by Incentive Publications. Songs she co-wrote with Monte Selby are featured on his CDs.

Methods of Instruction:

- Individual sections (8)
- Video lectures (8) (15 hours)

- Interactive study guide sessions (8)
- PowerPoint presentations (8) (60 to 100 pages)
- Transcripts and handouts (100 pages)
- Graded post assessments (8)

Texts and/or Other Materials:

- Transcripts, handouts, and PowerPoint presentations (200 pages)

Assignments

- Post assessment Q&A sessions (8)
 - 10 True and False Multiple Choice Questions (graded, feedback including correct response)
 - 5 Interactive Study Guide Questions (Open-ended with feedback, including suggested responses)

All steps listed under each topic must be completed to receive credit for the course. No partial credit will be given.

Due dates:

Online, self-running programs can be started and completed at participants' own leisure within two months from the day they begin the course.