



Post-baccalaureate (Master Level) Certificate

Empathy Certificate

• CIP code 130101 • 16 credits • 3 terms full time • Accepted in TSM or IS

Program Description — Too often the study of history occurs from the perspective of looking at dates and manipulated facts. This program utilizes an empathy pedagogy that focuses on constant teacher-student interaction, attentive listening and interchange of roles. In this context, we will apply empathy and storytelling as a means of analyzing the Underground Railroad from its historical sense. At the conclusion of this program, students will be equipped to incorporate the content from this program and Empathy techniques into their classroom and develop new educational models for positive social change.

Pedagogical approach — An Empathy pedagogy includes understanding the students’ perspectives and giving value to their experiences. When the channels of communication are open and teachers get into their students’ shoes, material relevant to the students’ experiences is presented at the second stage, while students are encouraged to question the prevailing status quo and to raise their voices in institutional contexts in which they have traditionally been silenced. Finally, during the third stage, students disseminate self-gained knowledge and thoughts with a view to creating a better future and a different society, as part of the broader mission of informed, democratic, critical, empathetic and active citizens.

Learning Outcomes — Upon completing this graduate certificate program, students will be able to:

- Explain and analyze the Underground Railroad as a key historical event
- Understand and evaluate the diversity of the human experience as influenced by religion, race, culture, and politics in US history.
- Apply historical processes that shape individuals and communities, drawing on detailed knowledge about the history of the area under study
- Think critically about the complexity of experiences found in the historical record of the United States during the Underground Railroad, and utilize Empathy to explore diversity as a critical component of history
- Distinguish between primary and secondary sources, and understand how each are used to make historical arguments
- Assess, use, and synthesize different kinds of evidence from a variety of historical sources to make a coherent argument about the past
- Effectively conduct research and write a coherent historical essay or research paper that articulates a clear argument, effectively interprets multiple forms of evidence, identifies arguments in secondary historical texts, and uses appropriate citations.
- Understand the difference between opinions and substantiated scholarly claims
- Produce new works to be used within the classroom setting
- Utilize storytelling in a classroom setting

Careers and Further Study — Graduates may be eligible for advancement in human service careers that do not require licensure. They will NOT be eligible to return to study towards mental health licensure at the CAGS level.

Careers — K-12 teachers, parents, administrators, community leaders and college faculty will benefit from this certificate program.

Academic Requirements

(Four 3-credit classes and one 4 credit class/tour)

Term 1

- EMP 600 Reframing Our Stories: Empathy and the Underground Railroad
- EMP 601 Underground Railroad: From Bondage to Abolition

Term 2

- EMP 602 Unraveling Our History: Grappling with Race and Culture in America
- EMP603 From Oppression to Social Change

Term 3

- EMP 604 Footsteps to Freedom (4 credits)

Admission requirements: Bachelor’s degree and other School of Education requirements.

Program chair: Hardy Brown II, MA, and Diane Harper, MA
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(All courses @ 3 credits except as noted.)