## GED 526-A Understanding and Responding to Harm Using a Holistic Restorative Approach

Instructor: Annie O’Shaughnessy, M.Ed with Guest Speakers and Instructors

The restorative approach to discipline in schools is a relationally based, non-exclusionary approach rooted in the principles of voluntary participation, meaningful engagement, active responsibility, collaborative problem-solving and fair process. It places each person’s dignity and inherent goodness at the center of the process and seeks to approach every challenge with compassionate curiosity and desire to grow. It is a “human-centered” approach, aimed at serving everyone in a school community including students, staff, families and school leaders. In this course you will not only explore the restorative practices associated with this approach—restorative chat, restorative conference, class circle, and community circle—you will also explore the nature of harm and healing as they are experienced by individuals and entire groups. Understanding of and/or dedicated interest in equity, mindfulness, and trauma informed practices is required.

100% online with bi-weekly synchronous meetings.