

Understanding by Design Module COMMUNICATION AND ETHICS

Title of Module	Communication and Ethics	Level	Boreal Homebuilding
Curriculum Area	Personal Growth	Time Frame	1 week
Developed By	Trea StormHunter		
Identify Desired Results (Stage 1)			
Module Description			
<p>This Module will build on English literacy by connecting English to the process of communication, as well as personal and professional ethics related to the work force in the community. Participants are introduced to the concept of communication and understand the process of communication.</p> <p>This module will encourage the development of effective communication skills and introduce participants to key terms and concepts for ethics and communication, along with how to apply this knowledge to real-world experience. Participants will consider how ethics and communication has changed over time, along with how to integrate both Indigenous and Western styles of communication and ethics.</p>			
Understandings		Essential Questions	
Overarching Understanding		Overarching	Topical
<p>The role of traditional Indigenous ethics and how these ethics-maintained balance in the family, community and leadership.</p> <p>The role of western ethics and how they fit into Traditional knowledge.</p> <p>Discuss the concept of communication as a process.</p> <p>How western communication styles and Indigenous styles differ.</p> <p>The ways to professionally communicate with others in the workplace.</p>		<p>Why is having values and beliefs important and how can we form them independently?</p> <p>Why is it crucial to consider the effects of our words and actions on other people?</p> <p>If you could choose one rule for the entire world to adhere to, what would it be and why?</p> <p>What makes communication effective?</p> <p>What are the available communication tools to complete a task?</p> <p>What is the relationship between</p>	<p>To what degree do ethics guide my behaviour?</p> <p>How do I communicate with others?</p> <p>Do I clearly communicate my needs to others?</p> <p>What traditional values are specific to the communication process?</p>
Related Misconceptions			
<p>Everyone knows what communication is and how to communicate effectively.</p> <p>Being fluent in a language has nothing to with your communication skills, yes English is a very powerful language, but communication skills are not limited to mastering the English language.</p>			

	communication and professionalism?	
Knowledge Participants will know...		Skills Participants will be able to...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify the importance of ethics and define professional ethics. Discuss the concept of communication as a process. Identify ways to improve communication skills. Identify common defense mechanisms. Discuss the concept of professional communication. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand how their ethics affect their behaviour and communication style. Demonstrate positive communication through active listening. Recognize and understand how defense mechanisms are both positive and negative. Understand how to communicate professionally. Assess their own communication style.
Assessment Evidence (Stage 2)		
Performance Task Description		
Goal	A group project where a classroom poster is created by the participants identifying agreed upon ethical guidelines and classroom participant and Instructor Expectations.	
Role	Participant	
Audience	Classroom and Instructors Ethical Behavior guidelines are established.	
Situation	Participants will work together as a team to create a poster incorporating both Indigenous and western ethical guidelines	
Product/Performance	Teamwork and communication	
Other Evidence – IQ Skills		
Team building skills, cooperation, effective communication.		
Learning Plan (Stage 3)		
Where are your participants headed? Where have they been? How will you make sure the participants know where they are going?	<p>This module builds on group cohesion and rapport building. The participants will establish their own set of classroom ethics and will practice holding each other accountable to these guidelines through effective communication. Communication will be monitored through journaling and sharing circles for continuous feedback.</p>	
How will you hook participants at the beginning of the module?	<p>Elders are a very important support system in Communities. They carry traditional knowledge and are able to share teachings, provide wisdom and are well respected. An Elder will introduce the traditional ethics and the importance of effective communication.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What traditional ethics did the Elders demonstrate? Why are these ethics important for this community? How can we demonstrate and honor these ethics through communication? 	

	<p>Participants will brainstorm the importance of culture and tradition; through this hook they will gain a deeper understanding of how ethics and effective communication will benefit them both personally and professionally.</p>
<p>What events will help participants experience and explore the big idea and questions in the module? How will you equip them with needed skills and knowledge?</p>	<p>The specific events related to ethics and communication are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On the first day, write down the six essential questions on a piece of flipchart paper. • The participants will answer these questions individually, then share with the larger group. • Individually, participants will complete a communication style assessment. • Individually, participants will identify one area of communication they want to improve for themselves. • The participants will be assigned a partner for the week to practice their communication skills. • Each participant will be encouraged to give feedback to their partner.
<p>How will you cause participants to reflect and rethink? How will you guide them in rehearsing, revising, and refining their work?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At the end of the week, the participants will review the essential questions again and identify ways in which their opinion has changed or remained the same. • The participants will journal about their experience in the classroom environment and working with their partner throughout the week. • The participants will share one highlight of their learning with the group in a sharing circle at the end of the week. • This ensures accountability to the group, along with building trust and rapport within the group.
<p>How will you help participants to exhibit and self-evaluate their growing skills, knowledge, and understanding throughout the module?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Throughout this module, the formative assessment approach, which summarizes the participants' development at a particular time will be used to evaluate a student's progress. • A peer assessment will also be used where the participants will evaluate each other and provide constructive feedback for each participant to reflect. • An oral summative assessment will be administered to ensure a deeper understanding of the module.
<p>How will you tailor and otherwise personalize the learning plan to optimize the engagement and effectiveness of ALL participants, without compromising the goals of the module?</p>	<p>This module will include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defining terminology to have a clear understanding of concepts and key terms. • Actively applying these key concepts and terms through the experiential project. • Writing in their journal and completing a peer feedback evaluation. • Differentiated assignments to meet the different levels of the participants.
<p>How will you organize and sequence the learning activities to optimize the engagement and achievement of ALL participants?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The participants will connect traditional Indigenous ethics and communication styles to western ethics and communication styles and identify similarities and differences in both. • Through this identification, the participants will brainstorm and both individually and collectively to find their own effective communication style and guidelines for ethical behaviour. • By engaging mentally, emotionally and physically, they are optimizing their learning in

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	all aspects.
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From: Wiggins, Grant and J. Mc Tighe. (1998). *Understanding by Design*, Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development ISBN # 0-87120-313-8 (ppk)