#### EmpowerU's Educator Course Aligned with the 2024 California Standards for the Teaching Profession (CSTP)

# Catapult Learning empċwer∪

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Element 3A: Knowledge of Subject Matter and Pedagogy																x							
Element 3B: Connecting Subject Matter to Real- World Contexts							x	x					х	х	x								
Element 3C: Curriculum and Resources for Specific Students and Student Groups This course's instructional design empowers educators to comprehend their students' individual strengths and motivations, enabling them to foster each learner's growth. It prioritizes educators' self-identified areas for improvement while implicitly guiding them on integrating growth promotion into their interactions with								mpo	wers	educ	ators	to co	hend	their									
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#### Educators will learn all concepts on TWO levels:

1) To use in support of all student SEL/mental health, and

2) Most importantly, to apply these concepts to their own wellbeing.

#### **INTRODUCTION: Getting Started with EmpowerU**

This lesson is where all educators start in the course. It introduces EmpowerU's mission and outlines the requirements of the program. The lesson also asks educators to identify and reflect on their teams, support systems, and relationships.

Essential Learnings	2024 California Standards for the Teaching Profession (CSTP) Alignment
Review EmpowerU's mission and program design.	4A: Planning Instruction for Student Learning
Learn EmpowerU's core concepts and how they inform EmpowerU programs.	4B: Designing and Developing Instruction for Student
Review course logistics.	Learning
	4C: Facilitating Instruction for Student Learning
	6G: Personal Growth and Well-Being

#### **LESSON 1: You Are in Control**

This is the first official EmpowerU lesson. It focuses on the concept of an internal versus external locus of control and how that affects our ability to cope. In this lesson, educators will identify and reflect on the type/degree of locus of control they have and evaluate how that helps or prevents them from achieving their goals.

Essential Learnings	CASEL Competencies	National Health Education Standards	CSTP Alignment
Differentiate between an		1.12.2 Describe the	2A: Learning Environment
external versus internal	Self-Awareness	interrelationships of emotional,	
locus of control.		intellectual, physical, and social	2B: Student Behavior
Identify if they have more	Responsible	health.	
of an internal or external			4D: Adapting Instruction for Student
locus of control.	Decision-Making		Learning
Evaluate how developing			
an internal locus of			6G: Personal Growth and Well-Being
control could help them			
meet goals in this course			
and in life.			

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#### **LESSON 2: My Values**

In Lesson 2, educators are asked to demonstrate understanding of a core value and be able to articulate their personal core values. Then, they work to develop strategies to live more in alignment with these values in different areas of their life.

Essential Learnings	CASEL Competencies	National Health Standards	CSTP Alignment
Identify core values and be able to articulate their personal core values.	Self-Awareness	2.12.8 Analyze the influence of personal values and beliefs on	1B: Knowledge of Students
They will develop strategies to live more		individual health practices and	1D: Diversity and Equity
in alignment with these values in	Responsible	behaviors.	
different areas of their life.			2D: Inclusive Environment
Analyze how aligned they are to their	Decision-Making		
values in day-to-day life.			6G: Personal Growth and
Deflect on how to live more aligned with		1.12.3 Analyze how	Well-Being
Reflect on how to live more aligned with their values.		environment and personal	
		health are interrelated.	

# **LESSON 3: Using My Strengths**

This lesson is about personal strengths. Educators are asked to identify their personal strengths and reflect on how they can use those strengths to meet their goals. There is also a strengths assessment to help educators identify personal core strengths.

Essential Learnings	CASEL Competencies	National Health Education Standards	CSTP Alignment
Analyze past experiences and the strengths used to get through	Self-Awareness	2.12.8 Analyze the influence of personal values and beliefs on	1B: Knowledge of Students
struggles. Complete a strengths assessment to identify personal core strengths.	Responsible	individual health practices and behaviors.	5B: Interpreting and Using Assessment Data to Inform Student Learning
Reflect on how their strengths help them meet goals.	Decision-Making		6A: Reflection on Practice



#### **LESSON 4: Where I Want to Make Change**

In this lesson, educators apply all that they've learned in the first three lessons to their personal lives and goals in a Starting Point Assessment. Then, they set goals in each of the four domains to work toward throughout the EmpowerU course.

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Essential Learnings	CASEL Competencies	National Health Education Standards	CSTP Alignment
Complete a comprehensive review within different wellness domains based upon	Self-Awareness	6.12.1 Assess personal health practices and overall health	2A: Learning Environment
the ASCA (academic/career, personal	Sell-Awareness	status.	4A: Planning Instruction for
wellness, social/belonging, emotional/mental health) based upon	Responsible		Student Learning
Stages of Change (Prochaska &	Decision-Making		5A: Understanding and
Diclemente, 1983) and gain insight into			Using Assessments
the areas that would be most helpful for them to begin personal change.			5D: Assessment for
Assimilate their reflections in each domain		6.12.2 Develop a plan to attain a	Continuous Improvement
and based upon their review, set "smart" goals in four domains - personal wellness,		personal health goal that addresses strengths, needs, and	6A: Reflection on Practice
emotional/mental health wellness, social		risks.	
wellness, and academic/career wellness to work toward throughout the EmpowerU			
lessons.			

# **LESSON 5: Small Steps to Make Change**

Lesson 5 builds upon the goal setting in Lesson 4 by introducing the concept of "small steps" as a way to make lasting, realistic change. In this lesson, educators learn about the Five Phases of Change. Educators are then asked to reflect on where to begin making a small, minor change to an unwanted habit in their life.

Essential Learnings	CASEL Competencies	National Health Education Standards	CSTP Alignment
Name the Five Phases of Change and, more specifically, how to successfully walk through	Self-Awareness	7.12.1 Analyze the role of individual responsibility for	4A: Planning Instruction for Student
the stages to create movement and get		enhancing health.	Learning
"unstuck" in each of the four domains that they studied in Lesson 4 (academic, personal	Self-Management		4B: Designing and
wellness, social, emotional).	Social Awareness		Developing Instruction
Explain why making small changes is		7.12.2 Demonstrate a variety of	for Student Learning
sustainable.	Responsible	healthy practices and behaviors	
	Decision-Making	that will maintain or improve	6A: Reflection on
		the	Practice
		health of self and others.	
Identify and reflect on where in their life they	]	7.12.3 Demonstrate a variety of	
will begin making a minor change.		behaviors to avoid or reduce	
		health risks to self and others.	

SCOPE AND SEQUENCE 20-LESSON COURSE

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#### **LESSON 6: Expectations and Motivation**

After learning about the logistics of changing habits in Lesson 5, Lesson 6 focuses on the other piece of goal-setting: motivation. In this lesson, educators learn about different types of expectation and motivation. Then, they take an assessment that provides insight into how they personally respond to expectations of themselves and expectations that others have of them. After taking this assessment, educators learn which motivational strategies would work best for them based on their personal response to expectations, and how they can use those strategies to meet their goals.

Essential Learnings	CASEL Competencies	National Health Education Standards	CSTP Alignment
Describe inner and outer	Self-Awareness	7.12.1 Analyze the role of individual responsibility for enhancing health.	1A: Focus on Students
expectations.	Self-Management		1B: Knowledge of Students
Analyze how their dominant response to expectations will help	Social Awareness	7.12.2 Demonstrate a variety of healthy practices and behaviors that will maintain or improve the	3B: Connecting Subject Matter to Real-World
increase motivation.	Responsible Decision-	health of self and others. 7.12.3 Demonstrate a variety of behaviors	Contexts
Apply strategies for most successful change.	Making	to avoid or reduce health risks to self and others.	5D: Assessment for Continuous Improvement

# **LESSON 7: Habit Change Strategies**

Lesson 7 continues the conversation surrounding habit change in Lessons 5 and 6 by introducing habit change strategies. This lesson discusses five specific habit change strategies and asks educators to apply one of them to a habit they want to increase or decrease. Throughout the lesson, educators identify strategies best suited for themselves based on their response to expectations and apply that knowledge to their goal(s) from Lesson 4.

Essential Learnings	CASEL Competencies	National Health Education Standards	CSTP Alignment
Identify different habit change strategies and develop an understanding of the unique habit change strategies that work	Self-Awareness	7.12.1 Analyze the role of individual responsibility for enhancing health.	3B: Connecting Subject Matter to Real-World Contexts
best for them to eliminate or reduce unwanted behaviors.	Self-Management		5D: Assessment for
Apply a habit change strategy to the habit they either want to increase or decrease.	Social Awareness Responsible Decision-Making	7.12.2 Demonstrate a variety of healthy practices and behaviors that will maintain or improve the health of self and others.	Continuous Improvement
Analyze how all strategies can help them better meet their goals.		7.12.3 Demonstrate a variety of behaviors to avoid or reduce health risks to self and others.	

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#### **LESSON 8: The Power of My Thoughts**

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The next few lessons are focused on thoughts, specifically negative or ruminating worried thoughts and anxiety. Lesson 8 kickstarts that learning by focusing on the brain, specifically the power of thoughts and how they build. Educators learn how thoughts can create emotions and chemical and physical change in their brains in both helpful and hurtful ways. They also learn about subconscious thoughts and how they build over time. More importantly, they learn that they can talk back to their hurtful subconscious thoughts using their Inner Coach. The lesson concludes with reflective questions asking educators to identify their own helpful and hurtful subconscious thought patterns.

Essential Learnings	CASEL Competencies	National Health Education Standards	CSTP Alignment
Explain the pathway of a thought.	Self-Awareness	5.12.1 Examine barriers that can hinder healthy decision making.	1B: Knowledge of Students
Demonstrate understanding of the power of a thought and how it builds in the brain. They will understand how thoughts can create emotions and chemical and physical change in their brains in both helpful and hurtful	Self-Management Relationship Skills	<ul> <li>5.12.2 Determine the value of applying a thoughtful decision-making process in health-related situations.</li> <li>6.12.3 Implement strategies and</li> </ul>	4C: Facilitating Instruction for Student Learning
ways. Identify personal thought patterns and demonstrate understanding of how they can control their thoughts and emotions and identify practical strategies to create real, positive change within their brain structure.	Responsible Decision-Making	monitor progress in achieving a personal health goal.	

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#### **LESSON 9: Thinking Traps**

This lesson is about Thinking Traps (persistent negative thoughts). Educators continue to learn about negative subconscious thoughts and how they can distort thoughts and beliefs over time. They then examine a specific area of worry or anxiety that gets in their way of meeting goals and identify Thinking Traps that promote this worry. Finally, they practice using their Inner Coach to challenge their Thinking Trap(s).

Essential Learnings	CASEL Competencies	National Health Education Standards	CSTP Alignment
Understand how a negative subconscious distorts thoughts and beliefs over time.	Self-Awareness	5.12.1 Examine barriers that can hinder healthy decision making.	1A: Focus on Students 1D: Diversity and Equity
Identify a specific area of worry or anxiety that gets in their way of meeting goals and identify Thinking Traps that promote this worry.	Self-Management Relationship Skills Responsible Decision- Making	5.12.2 Determine the value of applying a thoughtful decision- making process in health- related situations.	2B: Student Behavior
Examine personal Thinking Traps as a way to start increasing their Inner Coach to combat hurtful or worried thinking.		6.12.3 Implement strategies and monitor progress in achieving a personal health goal.	



#### **LESSON 10: Thoughts and Emotions**

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This lesson builds upon the learning from Lessons 8 and 9, specifically focusing on the relationship between thoughts and emotions. In this lesson, educators learn about the experience -> thought -> emotion -> action cycle. More importantly, educators learn that they can control their thoughts and emotions using their Inner Coach.

Essential Learnings	CASEL Competencies	National Health Education Standards	CSTP Alignment
Identify how emotions/fear response can take over the brain and cut off access to the prefrontal cortex (PFC) or logical thinking.	Self-Awareness	5.12.1 Examine barriers that can hinder healthy decision making.	2B: Student Behavior 6B: Focused
Demonstrate understanding of the difference between a thought, a feeling, and a fact. They will demonstrate understanding of the different ways that feelings develop from thoughts and how they can process them effectively.	Self-Management Relationship Skills Responsible Decision-Making	5.12.2 Determine the value of applying a thoughtful decision- making process in health-related situations.	Professional Learning
Examine how using the Inner Coach to identify the emotion and talk back to it can keep personal control.		<ul> <li>5.12.2 Determine the value of applying a thoughtful decision-making process in health-related situations.</li> <li>6.12.3 Implement strategies and monitor progress in achieving a personal health goal.</li> </ul>	

## **LESSON 11: Disrupting a Negative Cycle**

In this lesson, educators learn how to stop a hurtful thought in low and high stress situations, recruiting different strategies for each situation. They will demonstrate mastery of a comprehensive CBT approach to change ingrained distorted thoughts into more realistic and encouraging thoughts through intentional personal practice.

Essential Learnings	CASEL Competencies	National Health Education Standards	CSTP Alignment
Demonstrate the hand model and "Flip Your Lid."	Self-Awareness	5.12.1 Examine barriers that can hinder healthy decision making.	2B: Student Behavior 6B: Focused
Examine how to disrupt a negative cycle when emotions are big.	Self-Management Relationship Skills	5.12.2 Determine the value of applying a thoughtful decision- making process in health-related	Professional Learning
Identify strategies to disrupt negative cycles by demonstrating knowledge on how to stop a hurtful thought in low and high stress situations, recruiting different strategies for each situation.	Responsible Decision-Making	situations. 6.12.3 Implement strategies and monitor progress in achieving a personal health goal.	

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#### **LESSON 12: Thinking Realistically**

Lesson 12 focuses on using realistic thinking as a tool to disrupt negative, hurtful subconscious thought patterns. Educators learn how to eliminate or reduce persistent negative thoughts by replacing them with positive, realistic thoughts.

Essential Learnings	CASEL Competencies	National Health Education Standards	CSTP Alignment
Examine ways to change hurtful subconscious thought patterns.	Self-Awareness	5.12.1 Examine barriers that can hinder healthy decision making.	2B: Student Behavior 3B: Connecting
	Self-Management Relationship Skills Responsible	5.12.2 Determine the value of applying a thoughtful decision-making process in health-related situations.	Subject Matter to Real-World Contexts
Demonstrate the ability to utilize realistic thinking (Three Cs) as a strategy to change hurtful thoughts into realistic thoughts that can help.	Decision-Making	6.12.3 Implement strategies and monitor progress in achieving a personal health goal.	

# **LESSON 13: What is Stress?**

This lesson is all about stress, specifically its physiological and psychological effects. Educators will learn what causes stress and what can happen if we let it build up over time (leave it unattended).

Essential Learnings	CASEL Competencies	National Health Education Standards	CSTP Alignment
Demonstrate basic knowledge and understanding about what causes stress and the physiological and psychological effects of stress. Analyze how stress triggers a range of emotions.	Self-Awareness Self-Management Social Awareness	<ul> <li>1.22. The student will analyze the impact of personal health behaviors on the functioning of body systems</li> <li>4.1. The student will evaluate different strategies to use when</li> </ul>	1D: Diversity and Equity 2B: Student Behavior 3B: Connecting
Describe the unhealthy effects of unattended stress.	Relationship Skills Responsible Decision- Making	making decisions related to the health needs and risks of young adult.	Subject Matter to Real-World Contexts

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#### **LESSON 14: Pause and Check In**

Lesson 14 builds on the previous lesson and dives deeper into the stress response. In this lesson, educators will learn how to recognize stress building and, more importantly, what they can do to manage it.

Essential Learnings	CASEL Competencies	National Health Education Standards	CSTP Alignment
Explain the importance of recognizing early responses to stress.	Self-Awareness	1.22. The student will analyze the impact of personal health behaviors on the functioning of	1D: Diversity and Equity 2B: Student Behavior
Identify their own early responses to stress building.	Self-Management Social Awareness	body systems 4.1. The student will evaluate different strategies to use	3B: Connecting Subject Matter to Real-World
Examine personal levels of stress	Relationship Skills	when making decisions related to the health needs and risks of young adult.	Contexts 5A: Understanding and
	Responsible Decision- Making		Using Assessments

## **LESSON 15: Strategies to Manage Stress**

This lesson focuses on providing educators with the tools they need to manage their stress levels every day. Educators will not only learn multiple different stress management strategies, but they will also identify specific ones that work for them and determine when and where they could use them.

Essential Learnings	CASEL Competencies	National Health Education Standards	CSTP Alignment
Demonstrate an understanding of proactive and reactive stress management strategies.	Self-Awareness	1.22. The student will analyze the impact of personal health behaviors	3A: Knowledge of Subject Matter and Pedagogy
	Self-Management	on the functioning of body systems	5B: Interpreting and Using Assessment Data to Inform
Identify personal current level of participation in these strategies.	Social Awareness	4.1. The student will evaluate different	Student Learning
Determine when to use strategies in relation to levels of stress.	Relationship Skills	strategies to use when making decisions related	6A: Reflection on Practice
	Responsible Decision- Making	to the health needs and risks of young adult.	6G: Personal Growth and Well- Being

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## **LESSON 16: Processing Difficult Emotions**

In this lesson, educators learn to identify and process difficult emotions and uncontrollable stressors (things that causes the most stress but cannot be changed) using a four-step model. They then identify their biggest uncontrollable stressor and practice processing it using the four steps.

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Essential Learnings	CASEL Competencies	National Health Education Standards	CSTP Alignment
Identify personal triggers for		1.22. The student will analyze	5B: Interpreting and Using
stress/anxiety in their own life and	Self-Awareness	the impact of personal health	Assessment Data to Inform
categorize them into controllable		behaviors on the functioning	Student Learning
stressors and importance of outcome.	Self-Management	of body systems	
Learn to process your emotions in a		4.1. The student will evaluate	6A: Reflection on Practice
healthy way.	Social Awareness	different strategies to use	
		when making decisions	6F: Activating Access and Equity
	<b>Relationship Skills</b>	related to the health needs	
		and risks of young adult.	6G: Personal Growth and Well-
	Responsible		Being
	Decision-Making		

# **LESSON 17: Belonging**

The last few lessons are focused on social connection. Lesson 17 kickstarts that learning by asking educators to reflect on where they feel personal belonging in their relationships and friendships. Educators are asked to discern between relationships with true belonging versus relationships where they are just fitting in. They learn about the difference between changing their values to fit in and changing small behaviors to connect with people at all levels, especially at the beginning of relationships.

Essential Learnings	CASEL Competencies	National Health Education Standards	CSTP Alignment
Assess where they feel valued and included		4.12.1 Use skills for	2A: Learning Environment
for who they are.	Self-Awareness	communicating effectively	
		with family, peers, and	2D: Inclusive Environment
	Self-Management	others to enhance health	
Develop the ability to discern between		4.12.2 Demonstrate refusal,	6C: Collaboration with
relationships with true belonging versus	Social Awareness	negotiation, and	Colleagues
relationships where they are just fitting in		collaboration skills to	
and will demonstrate understanding of	Relationship Skills	enhance health and avoid or	
areas of their life where they want to foster		reduce health risks.	
more belonging.	Responsible		
Examine how feeling a sense of belonging is	Decision-Making	4.12.3 Demonstrate	
an important piece of community.		strategies to prevent,	
		manage, or resolve	
		interpersonal conflicts	
		without harming self or	
		others.	

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#### **LESSON 18: Creating Community**

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This lesson introduces the levels of friendship, emphasizing the importance of creating connections with people at all levels (Acquaintances, Circumstantial Friends, Close Friends, Best Friends). Educators will use this framework to examine their own personal friendships and supports, helping to guide steps forward in their relationships. This lesson specifically focuses on the first two levels - Acquaintances and Circumstantial friendships – and the value of those connections.

Essential Learnings	CASEL Competencies	National Health Education Standards	CSTP Alignment
Examine personal friendships and supports.	Self-Awareness	4.12.4 Demonstrate how to ask for and offer assistance to enhance the health of self	1A: Focus on Students 1B: Knowledge of Students
	Self-Management	and others.	1C: Student Backgrounds
Determine the value of acquaintances and circumstantial friends and supports.	Social Awareness	8.12.1 Utilize accurate peer and societal norms to	and Family Engagement
Apply understanding of personal criteria to increase intentional reflections for	Relationship Skills	formulate a health- enhancing message.	1D: Diversity and Equity
what they value in a relationship as people move through the levels, again using this to increase their Inner Coach to accept people at different levels.	Responsible Decision- Making		6G: Personal Growth and Well-Being

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#### **LESSON 19: Meaningful Connections**

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Lesson 19 centers on the last two levels of friendship: Close and Best Friends. In this lesson, educators reflect on the qualities that they value in a close or best friend and identify appropriate behaviors to build connection in friendships, including safe disclosure and reasonable expectations of self and others. They then apply this knowledge to their own social circle, identifying relationships and supports that are at this closest level of friendship.

Essential Learnings	CASEL Competencies	National Health Education Standards	CSTP Alignment
Assess the attributes that are important to them in a close or best friend.	Self-Awareness	4.12.4 Demonstrate how to ask for and offer assistance to enhance the health of self and others.	1A: Focus on Students 1B: Knowledge of Students
	Self-Management Social Awareness	8.12.1 Utilize accurate peer and societal norms to formulate a health-enhancing message.	1C: Student Backgrounds and Family Engagement
	Relationship Skills		1D: Diversity and Equity
Analyze the changes they can make to move to the next level of friendship, including safe disclosure and reasonable	Responsible Decision-Making	8.12.2 Demonstrate how to influence and support others to make positive health choices.	5A: Understanding and Using Assessments
expectations of self and others.		4.12.1 Use skills for communicating effectively with family, peers, and others to enhance health	

## **LESSON 20: Friendship Changes**

The lessons on friendship conclude with Lesson 20, which is about friendship change and transition. In this lesson, educators learn more about friendship changes and strategies to deal with friendship changes throughout their lives.

Essential Learnings	CASEL Competencies	National Health Education Standards	CSTP Alignment
Reflect on the various ways in which friendships change and why. Learn strategies to help cope with friendship changes.	Self-Awareness Self-Management Social Awareness Relationship Skills Responsible Decision-Making	<ul> <li>4.12.2 Demonstrate refusal, negotiation, and collaboration skills to enhance health and avoid or reduce health risks.</li> <li>4.12.3 Demonstrate strategies to prevent, manage, or resolve interpersonal conflicts without harming self or others.</li> <li>4.12.4 Demonstrate how to ask for and offer assistance to enhance the health of self and others.</li> </ul>	5D: Assessment for Continuous Improvement 6G: Personal Growth and Well-Being

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**COURSE FINAL: Final Wrap-Up** 

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This course concludes with a final wrap-up lesson. Educators complete a Next Point Assessment (similar to the Starting Point Assessment from Lesson 4), a comprehensive review of different wellness domains based upon the ASCA (academic/career, personal wellness, social/belonging, emotional/mental health). After completing the Next Point Assessment, they reflect on their growth throughout the course, gaining insight into their improvements based on the Stages of Change model (Prochaska & DiClemente, 1983). Then, they identify strategies to use after the course is complete.

Essential Learnings	CASEL Competencies	National Health Education Standards	CSTP Alignment
Take a Next Point Assessment similar to		1.12.2 The student will	5A: Understanding and Using
the Starting Point Assessment taken at the	Self-Awareness	analyze the	Assessments
beginning of the course.		interrelationships of mental,	
Compare the Next Point Assessment to	Self-Management	emotional, social, and	5B: Interpreting and Using
the Starting Point Assessment to		physical health throughout	Assessment Data to Inform
determine what they want to work on	Social Awareness	life.	Student Learning
after this course is complete.			
Identify strategies based on learning from	Relationship Skills	7.12.1 Analyze the role of	5D: Assessment for
this course to help be successful in		individual responsibility for	Continuous Improvement
meeting a goal/s after the course is	Responsible	enhancing health.	
complete.	Decision-Making		6G: Personal Growth and
Finish by completing a course survey.		7.12.2 Demonstrate a variety	Well-Being
		of healthy practices and	
		behaviors that will maintain	
		or improve the health of self	
		and others.	