Terms of Engagement:

Understanding and Promoting Student Engagement in Today’s College Classroom

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Quote from Eric Hoffer: “In times of change, learners inherit the Earth, while the learned find themselves beautifully equipped to deal with a world that no longer exists.”

Definition of Motivation: “The level of enthusiasm and the degree to which students invest attention/effort in learning” (Jere Brophy)

Good Student Bonus Behaviors:

* take responsibility for your own learning. One of the main reasons you are in college should be because you want to become better educated. I cannot make you learn, you have to decide to do this yourself.
* look to see if your question is answered in the Syllabus, announcements, or other documents/web pages before asking me a question.
* manage your time well and don’t ask for deadline extension.
* resolve any questions regarding grades by the grade resolution deadlines.
* read assignment directions carefully and use the grading rubrics to guide you as you do an assignment, then do your best effort. Not only will you learn more this way, but you’ll get a better grade.
* don’t ‘quibble’ over a few points.

“Junk Effort” Penalty: “If you have disregarded the basic directions, and/or put little or no college-level thought into the assignment, and/or submitted it with multiple grammar and spelling errors, it is a waste of my time and a waste of your time and you will have earned a -200 point penalty.”

Conversion of Table of Expectancy/Value Interactions with Predicted Behavior:

* If a student DOESN’T expect to succeed and DOESN’T value the task: resistance, rejection, resentment and anger at being coerced into a perceived unpleasant, pointless activity
* If a student DOESN’T expect to succeed and DOES value the task: make excuses, pretend to understand, deny difficulties, focus on protecting the ego engagement
* If a student DOES expect to succeed and DOESN’T value the task: evasion, do minimum, attention drifts to competing interests
* If a student DOES expect to succeed and DOES value the task: happy to focus on developing knowledge & skill

Teacher/Student Contract:

Teacher Behaviors:

* Start/end class on time
* Do our best to prepare engaging class sessions
* Treat you with respect
* Learn your name
* Be fair and upfront about grading
* Grade within one week of deadline

Student Behaviors:

* Listen when we’re talking
* Don’t use cell phones
* Participate in group work
* Try to contribute to whole class discussions
* Do work with integrity
* Be respectful of classmates

Max Forman Quote: Education in America seems to be the only commodity of which the customer tries to get as little as he can for his money.

Kenneth Johnson Quote: Education is going forward from cocksure ignorance to thoughtful uncertainty.

Benjamin Franklin Quote: He was so learned that he could name a horse in nine languages; so ignorant that he bought a cow to ride on.

William Butler Yeats Quote: Education is not filling a bucket, but lighting a fire.

Horace Mann Quote: If ever there was a cause, if ever there can be a cause worthy to be upheld by all toil or sacrifice that the human heart can endure, it is the cause of Education.

Professor Natalia Menendez Quote: “Teaching is a life of service, and as everyone knows,

a life of service is a life well-lived.”