

# An Introduction to a Whole Child Education: Ensuring That Each Child Is Healthy, Safe, Engaged, Supported, and Challenged

The demands and challenges of the 21st century require innovations on the part of teachers, administrators, schools, and communities in order to fully prepare students for college, career, and beyond. The ASCD Whole Child approach redefines a successful learner not as one “whose achievement is measured solely by academic tests” but rather as one “who is knowledgeable, emotionally and physically healthy, civically inspired, engaged in the arts, prepared for work and economic self-sufficiency, and ready for the world beyond formal schooling” (*The Learning Compact Redefined*, 2007, p. 4). Educators who take on the whole child approach, which aims to ensure that each student is healthy, safe, engaged, supported, and challenged, set the standard for comprehensive, sustainable school improvement and provide students with the opportunity for long-term success.

## Course Objectives

By the end of this course, you will be able to

### Module 1

- Identify the ASCD Whole Child framework, including tenets and indicators.
- Analyze and reflect on your individual appreciation of or reaction to the tenets and indicators.
- Compare and contrast your current professional practice with a whole child approach to education.

### Module 2

- Identify a problem of practice.
- Determine the root cause.
- Create a theory of action.

- Apply the action planner to your daily practice.

### Module 3

- Identify how school climate and culture affect every aspect of learning.
- Reflect and improve upon current climate and culture practices.

### Module 4

- Identify and reflect on practices of instruction and how they relate to the five tenets.
- Implement curricular and classroom instruction modifications that will keep students healthy, safe, engaged, supported, and challenged.

### Module 5

- Consider multiple measures of accountability to determine what you want to assess with the whole child in mind.
- Analyze classroom situations and determine the most appropriate type of assessment with the whole child in mind.

### Module 6

- Apply strategies to move toward a whole child approach to classroom management.
- Identify and analyze a problem of practice related to classroom management.

### Module 7

- Create systems or policies to sustain a whole child approach at the classroom or school level.
- Incorporate the community as part of a whole child approach for your school.
- Implement efficient professional development and capacity-building efforts for faculty and staff as whole child educators.

## Course Syllabus

<b>Module 1</b>	<b>What Is a Whole Child Approach?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Module Welcome</li><li>• Essential Questions</li><li>• Module Objectives</li><li>• The ASCD Whole Child Approach: Interactive Timeline</li><li>• Video: ASCD's Whole Child Approach to Education</li><li>• Reading: <i>EL—A Whole Child Umbrella</i></li><li>• Video: The Whole Child Award: Quest Early College High School</li><li>• Interactive Review: The Five Tenets</li><li>• Game Review: Whole Child Tenets</li><li>• The Whole Child Network</li><li>• Go Social!</li><li>• Whole Child Indicators</li><li>• Knowledge Check</li><li>• Application: Aligning Beliefs and Practices</li><li>• Post-Module Reflection</li><li>• Download Reflection and Notes</li></ul>
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<b>Module 2</b>	<b>The ASCD Action Planner</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Module Welcome</li><li>• Essential Questions</li><li>• Module Objectives</li><li>• Reading: Identify a Problem of Practice</li><li>• Video: Identifying a Problem of Practice</li><li>• Application 1: Identify a Problem of Practice</li><li>• Reading: Root Cause Analysis</li><li>• Application 2: Root Cause Analysis</li><li>• Reading: Theory of Action</li><li>• Application 3: Write a Theory of Action</li><li>• Reading: Develop an Action Plan</li><li>• Video: Making the Pitch</li><li>• Application 4: Empower Students to Lead (Optional)</li><li>• Post-Module Reflection</li><li>• Download Reflection and Notes</li></ul>
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<b>Module 3</b>	<b>Climate and Culture</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Module Welcome</li><li>• Essential Questions</li><li>• Module Objectives</li><li>• School Climate and Culture Indicators</li><li>• Video: School Climate and Culture: How They Are Different</li><li>• Reading: School Climate Change</li><li>• Application 1: School Climate Change</li><li>• Video: Disrupting Poverty in the Elementary School</li><li>• Climate and Culture: Leadership and Classroom Pathways</li><li>• Leadership Pathway<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Taking the “Whole Adult” Approach</li><li>○ Reading: Toxic School Cultures: How They Get That Way and Stay That Way</li><li>○ Video: Changing School Culture</li><li>○ Video: Don’t Count Me Out</li><li>○ Video: ASCD’s Whole Child Symposium on Poverty and Education</li><li>○ Reading: <i>ASCD Express</i>—Building a Culture of Yes: Five Strategies to Unlock Possibilities and Innovation in Schools (Optional)</li></ul></li><li>• Classroom Pathway<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Reading: Is My Classroom a “Bam!” Classroom?</li><li>○ Reading: <i>EL</i>—Making Diverse Classrooms Safer for Learning</li><li>○ Reading: <i>EL</i>—Show &amp; Tell: A Video Column / Two Times Ten Conversations</li><li>○ Video: <i>EL</i>—Show &amp; Tell: A Video Column / Two Times Ten Conversations</li></ul></li><li>• Knowledge Check</li><li>• Application 2: Climate and Culture Action Planner</li><li>• Post-Module Reflection</li><li>• Download Reflection and Notes</li></ul>
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<b>Module 4</b>	<b>Curriculum and Instruction</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Module Welcome</li><li>• Essential Questions</li><li>• Module Objectives</li><li>• Curriculum and Instruction Indicators</li><li>• Climate as the Foundation of Curriculum and Instruction</li><li>• Reading: Learning That’s Worthwhile</li><li>• Application 1: Backward Design for Social and Emotional Skills</li><li>• Application 2: Diversity Mapping</li><li>• Active Learning Strategies for Curriculum and Instruction</li><li>• Leadership Pathway<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Resources for Implementing Active Learning Strategies</li><li>○ Reading: <i>EL—Show &amp; Tell: A Video Column / Public Spirit in the Classroom</i></li><li>○ Video: <i>EL—Show &amp; Tell: A Video Column / Public Spirit in the Classroom</i></li></ul></li><li>• Classroom Pathway<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Examples of Project-Based Learning</li><li>○ Reading: <i>ASCD Express—The Service Learning–Empathy Connection</i></li><li>○ Webinar: Supporting Trans and Gender-Nonconforming Students with Pride (Optional)</li></ul></li><li>• Knowledge Check</li><li>• Application 3: Action Planner</li><li>• Post-Module Reflection</li><li>• Download Reflection and Notes</li></ul>
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<b>Module 5</b>	<b>Assessment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Module Welcome</li><li>• Essential Question</li><li>• Module Objectives</li><li>• Assessment Indicators</li><li>• Reading: <i>EL</i>—Three Key Questions on Measuring Learning</li><li>• Reading: Multimetric Accountability</li><li>• Application 1: What Matters with the ASCD Whole Child Approach</li><li>• Reading: <i>ASCD Express</i>—Building Mathematical Skills and Community Relationships Through Crash Reconstruction</li><li>• Reading: <i>ASCD Express</i>—How Action Research Forms Student-Centered Classrooms</li><li>• Application 2: How Should We Assess with the Whole Child in Mind?</li><li>• Video: <i>EL</i>—Show &amp; Tell: A Video Column / A Map for Meaningful Learning</li><li>• Knowledge Check</li><li>• Application 3: Action Planner for Assessment</li><li>• Post-Module Reflection</li><li>• Download Reflection and Notes</li></ul>
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<b>Module 6</b>	<b>Classroom Management</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Module Welcome</li><li>• Essential Question</li><li>• Module Objectives</li><li>• Classroom Management Indicators</li><li>• Scenario: Aiden</li><li>• Application 1: Ask “Why” and Apply the ASCD Whole Child Approach</li><li>• Classroom Management: Leadership and Classroom Pathways</li><li>• Leadership Pathway<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Reading: <i>EL—Addressing Dangerous Behavior</i></li><li>○ Resources for Classroom Management Across Your School</li></ul></li><li>• Classroom Pathway<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Scenario: Julie</li><li>○ Reading: <i>The Biology of Trauma</i></li><li>○ Video: <i>Trauma, The Brain, and Behavior</i></li><li>○ Traditional Classroom Management Models and the ASCD Whole Child Approach</li></ul></li><li>• Application 2: Action Planner for Classroom Management</li><li>• Post-Module Reflection</li><li>• Download Reflection and Notes</li></ul>
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<b>Module 7</b>	<b>Sustaining the Whole Child Approach</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Module Welcome</li><li>• Essential Question</li><li>• Module Objectives</li><li>• Reading: Sustainability: Use Collaboration and Coordination to Ensure Long-Term Success</li><li>• Examples of Community Collaboration</li><li>• The Whole Child in Action: Butterfield Trail Middle School</li><li>• Application 1: Processes and Practices in the Classroom or School</li><li>• Reading: <i>EL</i>—Show &amp; Tell: A Video Column / Leading PD That Works</li><li>• Video: <i>EL</i>—Show &amp; Tell: A Video Column / Leading PD That Works</li><li>• Professional Development Resources at ASCD (Optional)</li><li>• Knowledge Check</li><li>• Application 2: Action Planner for Sustainability</li><li>• Post-Module Reflection</li><li>• Download Reflection and Notes</li></ul>
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