**Creating a Positive Learning Environment Group Exercise**

**Exercise Objective** – The objective for this exercise is for each student to be able to…

Given a scenario involving specific student behavior(s) being displayed in a classroom situation, determine the appropriate course of action for the instructor to take that will result in him or her maintaining a positive and professional learning environment.

**Exercise Instructions:**

Listed below are eight scenarios involving common disruptive behaviors.

Each group will…

* be assigned two or three scenarios.
* be responsible for reading the assigned scenarios.
* brainstorm and collectively develop suggestions for handling the disruptive behavior.
* have 15 minutes to complete the group activity assigned.
* be responsible for reporting their answers/solutions to the rest of the class.
* have 5-minutes to report out.

**Scenarios:**

1. There are two participants who dominate the class. Both are quick to answer any question you direct to the class without giving other participants an opportunity to respond. You notice that other participants are hesitant to provide a response because of the actions of the overly zealous participants. How would you handle this situation?
2. During a lesson, a student calls into question your expertise by making the following statement, “It’s obvious, you don’t know much about the subject were discussing.” All eyes are fixed on you [the instructor]. How would you handle this situation?
3. During a lively verbal exchange between two participants, one of the students verbally threatens another student that almost leads to a physical altercation. How would you handle this situation?
4. A student continually uses his cell phone during class. The repeated cell phone use has become an interruption and distraction to other students. How would you handle this situation?
5. The majority of students in class will not participate in discussions or respond to questions you have directed to the audience. How would you handle this situation?
6. A student has continually returned to class late from lunch three days in a row. The behavior is causing a disruption. How would you handle this situation?
7. Students are continually having side conversation separate from the class discussion being facilitated by you the instructor. You cannot hear what they are saying. How would you handle this situation?
8. During your lesson presentation, you notice some students are removing their shoes. Several students have approached you about a distracting odor and visual. How would you handle this situation?