



Our Mission

We are driven to improve people's lives through rigorous motivation research.

► Improve Lives

We're dedicated to improving the quality of people's lives by providing supports directly to individuals as well as targeting the system in order to make effective, sustainable change. We are especially focused on working in partnerships with practitioners to support students from traditionally marginalized and underserved groups (e.g., Black and Brown students, students from lower income backgrounds).

► Apply Scientific Rigor

Our commitment to methodological best practices – from design thinking and improvement science to randomized field experiments and intervention fidelity – allows us to address our partners' real-world issues and set the stage for lasting, measurable change.

► Motivation Research

Our work aims to increase motivation not only by encouraging improvement but also by removing barriers to success. Growing evidence demonstrates that there is a relationship between the motivation we bring to challenges and our choices, enjoyment, persistence, and success in important activities. Motivation research also suggests that it is malleable – our motivation in a situation can be influenced and changed.

“This has been a lot of meaningful work and I am so grateful for the opportunity AND that now we have nearly 20 colleagues who speak the Mindset GPS language! What a thrill! The motivation revolution has started and is growing.

Motivating Learners Course Participant

Corequisite Courses and Learning Mindsets

Student motivation, particularly in corequisite courses, can go a long way towards determining success and completion. Research suggests that courses and teaching methods that establish a growth mindset for both faculty and students in corequisite courses support students in believing they can be successful. Training faculty in learning mindsets is a crucial tool for supporting students towards corequisite course completion.

In The Motivating Learners Course we recruit groups of faculty on each campus who share a disciplinary focus (e.g., biology) and leverage faculty networks to create sustainable pedagogical change. By partnering with faculty, creating structures to spark their conversations, and facilitating their sharing of course examples, our course helps develop a local faculty culture that is student centered and grounded in Mindset GPS principles. As researchers, we study and leverage the system change processes.

Implementing Learning Mindsets in Practice

Our strategy is hands-on and collaborative as we work together to incorporate learning mindsets organically at your institution. Here is what you can expect:

Share

Focus Groups

Participate in discussions about math and English corequisite education on your campus. Findings will ultimately guide the customization of the courses.

1-3 hours

Surveys

Contribute and reflect on valuable insights about your institution and students, empowering you to make informed choices in your teaching approach.

<1 hour

Learn

Intro to Learning Mindsets

Watch videos and read articles introducing Mindset GPS, then hear the story of a fictional student who struggles to navigate the learning environment.

2-4 hours

Motivating Learners Course

Practice identifying and creating Learning Mindset supportive messages and consider their effects on students. Create several projects that can be used in practice.

4-8 hours

Collaborate

Convenings

Deepen your understanding of motivational strategies and supportive messaging in a collaborative environment with fellow colleagues.

2-6 hours

Continuous Feedback

Share your feedback and thoughts about the process. This helps us to continuously improve and work alongside you to grow.

<1 hour

About the *Motivating Learners Course*

This online, mostly asynchronous learning experience equips faculty with motivationally-supportive tools and language. Participants will learn how to create a class that supports students to develop adaptive beliefs about learning and school. In particular, participants will learn about three key learning mindsets — Growth Mindset, Purpose & Relevance, and Sense of Belonging — and workshop strategies for leveraging these mindsets in a way that promotes equity while being customized to their own classes, teaching methods, and styles of communication.

Learning Outcomes

- **Know the principles** for supporting student motivation through 3 key learning mindsets (Mindset GPS) — Growth Mindset, Purpose & Relevance, and Sense of Belonging.
- **Identify** both supportive and unsupportive learning mindset messages.
- **Customize and implement** learning mindset supportive activities and messages.
- **Identify inequities** for key student groups and adopt learning mindset interventions to counteract them.

Additional Supports

Faculty Fellows

Receive personalized support from faculty colleagues, helping you seamlessly integrate mindset interventions while building a close-knit community that champions Mindset GPS.

Data Collection and Reporting

Gain access to valuable insights about your institution and students, empowering you to make informed choices in your teaching approach and scaling co-requisite education.

Interested in learning more?



MARCUS KOLB Marcus@motivatelab.org
Project Manager, Motivate Lab