

INTRODUCTION

Accepting and fulfilling your prestigious role of a highly effective professor can be a Herculean task. This is particularly evident when educational tools and moral support are not conveniently or easily available when you most want or need them.

The Professor's Book of 2,000 Quotations helps to deliver guidance and encouragement immediately and very accessibly. Thus, it helps you to enhance the teaching-learning process in your classes while, simultaneously, enhancing your own daily life.

This volume, arranged alphabetically by topic, shares the wisdom, experiences, and diverse approaches that enabled hundreds of people to survive and thrive in teaching-learning situations. It does so in a convenient, reader-friendly format.

Whether humorous or serious, quotations are gems that instill thoughts, emotions, attitudes and behaviors. They serve as highly effective educational tools to enhance teaching and learning.

In a few, well-chosen words, quotations simplify and convey complex concepts that give life perspective and shape meaning. In an age of information overload, this is immensely helpful.

Quotations can be powerful. They are often universal and travel across generations, continents, and oceans. They adorn buildings, gateways, monuments, T-shirts, bumper-stickers, drinking mugs, jewelry, and tattoos.

I invite you to empower your personal and professional life with many of the quotations in this book. I invite you to use or adapt them as gems and professional tools in at least five ways:

- 1) **To enhance your instruction, thus, student learning:** Use or adapt quotations to clarify, guide, illustrate, support, dramatize, challenge, motivate, intrigue, encapsulate, review, prophesize, and moralize.
- 2) **To enhance your class environment:** Use or adapt quotations to handle, alter, and provoke ideas and opinions, to justify, persuade, and question. When most needed, quotations can work magic by helping us to visualize what we need most to see.

- 3) **To handle and alter emotions in your class:**

Use quotations to calm, comfort, console, cheer-up, instill hope, excite, delight, entertain, and honor. Quotations can help people feel good about themselves, each other and life in general.

- 4) **To handle and alter your call-to-action:**

Use quotations to change academic and social behaviors in your class. For example, encourage the collecting and sharing of quotations and invite students to join the ranks of quotographers and quotologists.

- 5) **To enhance your life and self-concept:**

Use quotations to remind yourself of your beliefs, values, abilities, and strengths, and for self-empowerment. Use quotations as succinct memorable ways to communicate with others and also with yourself.

I share these five suggestions because quotations have consistently come to my rescue when I was in need of help personally and professionally. They helped me remain calm under dire circumstances. They helped to comfort me when I didn't understand the reasons why situations did not turn out as I had planned and worked toward. They helped me when I needed an extra jolt of energy or motivation to continue on the long, difficult paths I had chosen.

I grew up hearing and seeing many of the quotations that I now list in this book. They were gems that my family, particularly my mother, Italia Bonavita, shared with me. After she died, they served as my tools to survive and thrive in my role as professor. I have since shared many of the quotations with my daughter, Amy Gilvary, who proudly displayed quotations on her bedroom door. Amy now shares them with her step-children.

Personally and professionally, it is now time for me to share quotations with you to help you continue to survive and thrive both personally and professionally. May the 2,000 gems in this book help to brighten and lighten your paths and those of the people with whom you interact, especially your students and colleagues.

~Victoria