# Cultural Competency and Reflective Teaching



## Standards:

This course aligns to the INTASC Standards including Learner Development, Learning Differences, Learning Environments and Planning for Instruction.

It also aligns to the McRel Teacher Evaluation Standards including Teacher Leadership, and Diverse Learners. This course demonstrates responsive teaching in the classroom by helping teachers consider and build competence in meeting the many learning needs of all students. Learn how to build culturally diverse classrooms that are sensitive and equitable to learners across languages, genders, religions, cultural backgrounds, and special needs.

Teachers will also reflect on their teaching practice and interactions while considering ways they can grow.







# Cultural Competency and Reflective Teaching

# Course Outline

### **LESSON 1: Cultural Competency**

- Defining culture and cultural competency
- Cultural beliefs and values
- Impact of culture on behavior

### **LESSON 2: Bias**

- · Definition, types, and identification of bias
- Assumptions, perspectives, and self-perceptions

### **LESSON 3: Culturally Responsive Classrooms**

- Impact of culture on teaching and learning
- Brain roles in learning
- Teaching styles and student impact
- Building rapport with students

## **LESSON 4: Culturally Responsive Teaching**

- Diversity in the classroom
- Understanding diversity: origin, religion, gender, language, special needs, and mental health
- Cohesive classrooms and school communities
- Collaborating with families

Designed to meet state requirements for cultural competency and responsiveness training. Including but not limited to all of the following topics: racial, cultural, and socioeconomic groups; American Indian and Alaskan native students; religion; systemic racism; gender identity, including transgender students; sexual orientation; language diversity; and individuals with disabilities and mental health concerns while deepening teachers' understanding of their own frames of reference, the potential bias in these frames, and their impact on expectations for and relationships with students, students' families, and the school communities.

# Cultural Competency and Reflective Teaching

# Course Outline

#### **LESSON 1: Introduction**

- Need for reflection
- · Critical attributes and attitudes of a reflective teacher
- Types of reflection
- Circle of reflection
- Levels of reflective thinking
- Are you a reflective teacher?

### LESSON 2: Reflective Thinking and Application

- Developing reflective practice
- Factors that influence reflection
- Applying reflection in practice using strategies such as reframing classroom situations, action research, learning journals, logs, diaries, teaching portfolios, autobiographical narratives, storytelling, critical incident analysis, and self-observation

### LESSON 3: Opportunities for Professional Growth

- Characteristics and types of job-embedded professional development
- Practicing collaborative learning using various strategies like mentoring, peer observation, coaching, and so on
- Building effective Professional Learning Communities (PLCs)
- Enhancing traditional professional development through classroom visitation, conferences, learning study, examining student work, and workshops

#### LESSON 4: Professional Development Plan

- Principles of PDP
- Professional development cycle
- Elements of PDP
- Step-by-step guide to write a PDP







