MA Requirements Package (45 Hours)

The MA Requirements Package includes 3 self-study courses (15 hours each) for a total 45 hours of PD. This package includes the requirement for Students with Disabilities, Pedagogy, and SEI, ESL, & Bilingual Ed.

- ELL & ESL Instructional Strategies
- Pedagogy Essentials
- Students with Disabilities

Renew a Teaching License by Professional Learning Board is an approved DESE PDP provider.

ELL & ESL Instructional Strategies

Standards:

This course aligns to all of the INTASC Standards including Learner Development, Learning Differences, Learning Environments, Content Knowledge, Application of Content, Assessment, Planning for Instruction and Instructional Strategies.

It also aligns to all of the McRel Teacher Evaluation Standards including Teacher Leadership, Diverse Learners, Teachers Know Content, Teachers Facilitate Learning and Teachers Analyze and Reflect.

Modifying instruction and curriculum to support every student can be a challenge. This course is brimming with ideas and strategies to help you maximize instruction and cater to the individual needs of each learner.

This course enhances knowledge in the process of second language acquisition, including strategies to promote effective interaction between ELL students and their classmates, as well as approaches for adapting and modifying material to suit the learning needs of ELLs and ESLs.

The last section of this course focuses specifically on engaging with Spanish speaking students and their families.

Certificate of Completion

100% Online

Quizzes

ELL & ESL Instructional Strategies

Course Outline

SECTION A: English Language Learners in the Classroom

LESSON 1: Welcoming English Language Learners

- Create an environment of acceptance
- Understand the backgrounds of English Language Learners
- Establishing an open channel of communication with parents

LESSON 2: Accommodating a New Culture

- Identify the educational needs of English Language Learners
- Avoiding assumptions
- Conversational and cross-cultural skills
- Comparing cultures and value systems

LESSON 3: Collaboration and Connection

- Approaches for mainstream teachers to effectively serve English Language Learners
- The Sheltered Instruction (SI) model
- Four language skill areas

LESSON 4: Curriculum and Lessons

- Engaging students in "higher order thinking skills" (HOTS)
- Methods of simplification and expansion

ELL & ESL Instructional Strategies

Course Outline

SECTION B: Language Acquisition

LESSON 1: Introduction

- Considering how language is acquired
- Distinction between learning and acquiring a language
- Rules of language
- Basic Interpersonal Communication Skills (BICS) and Cognitive Academic Language Proficiency (CALP)
- The meanings and need for comprehensible input and interactionism
- Age related considerations in the acquisition of a language

LESSON 2: The Acquisition Process

- The stages of language acquisition and the characteristics, duration, and strategies of each; The Silent Period, Early Production, Speech Emergence, Intermediate Proficiency, Advanced Proficiency
- Reception and production of oral language vs. reception
- Reciprocity between oral skills and written skills in second languages

LESSON 3: Literacy Skills - Reading

- Why Literacy skills are essential to school success
- "Balanced Literacy" approach, its principles, and choosing appropriate texts
- The Language Experience Approach for early reading development
- Context-based activities in diverse classrooms
- Top-down approaches to reading and phonics for a balanced literacy program

LESSON 4: Writing and Dialogue

- Shared or modeled writing to benefit writers at early stages
- Free writing vs. a structured writing
- Dialogue journals
- Process writing stages: Prewriting, Drafting, Peer Review, Revising and Publishing
- Instructional Conversation (IC)

ELL & ESL Instructional Strategies

Course Outline

SECTION C: Spanish for Educators

LESSON 1: Introduction

- Exploring the similarities and differences between English and Spanish, including word origins, grammar, and pronunciation.
- Understanding and practicing the composition and pronunciation of the Spanish alphabet
- Learning sounds that, though eliminated from the alphabet, are still crucial to knowing the Spanish language
- The intricacies of Spanish syllables and cultural trends for names

LESSON 2: Greetings

- Common Spanish greetings for situations teachers are likely to encounter, and the right occasion to use them
- Effective ways to give instructions and appropriate responses
- Typical cultural phrases to wish people well in different circumstances

LESSON 3: Classroom Environment

- Using Spanish phrases, key words, and comments successfully in the classroom to benefit students' behavior and overall responses
- Identifying practical situations to practice the phrases learned outside the classroom
- Common mistakes native English speakers are likely to make while learning Spanish
- Gaining an overview of Spanish slang in order to minimize classroom disruptions

LESSON 4: Parent Partnerships and Communications

- Learning how to use a 'call script' to speak to parents on the telephone, and situations where this is useful
- Useful tips on how to prepare for conferences with parents
- Quick question words to have on hand that could be useful while directing conversations outside the classroom

15
15 Hours
of Learning

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Resources & Tools for
Professional Learning Plans

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Pedagogy Essentials

Standards:

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It also aligns to the McRel Teacher Evaluation Standards including Teacher Leadership, Teachers Know Content and Teachers Facilitate Learning.

'Pedagogy' is both the science and art of education. In the teaching practice, there is often a disconnect between the theory and the reality. This course is designed to target and bridge that gap.

The first section examines how teachers use research based strategies to choose efficient instructional methods and improve student achievement.

The second section considers how teachers can develop an effective curriculum.

The third section explores practical teacher organization. You will be provided with resources that assist you in providing the best instruction and assessment for students with the least amount of time and effort.

Certificate of Completion

100% Online

Quizzes

Pedagogy Essentials
Course Outline

SECTION A: Research-based Instructional Strategies

LESSON 1: Introduction

- The importance of education and a review of educational achievement statistics
- The benefits of incorporating research proven instructional strategies in the classroom
- Myths related to learning and teaching and the truth revealed through research

LESSON 2: Teacher-focused Approaches and Strategies

- Developing reflective practice
- The learning process
- A look at research-based student learning and achievement strategies
- Classroom application of strategies and approaches

LESSON 3: Active Learning

- The importance of active student participation and engagement
- Student engagement and active learning
- Research-based strategies
- Activities and projects

LESSON 4: Research-Based Strategies for Literacy and Math

- The importance of literacy
- The elements required to develop good reading skills
- Research-based strategies on improving students' reading skills
- The importance of developing one's writing skills
- Research-based strategies on improving students' writing skills and classroom applications of the same
- The importance of math in real life situations and the need for developing one's math skills

Pedagogy Essentials

Course Outline

SECTION B: Curriculum Development

LESSON 1: Introduction

- Curriculum development
- Curriculum vs. Syllabus
- Effective curriculum
- Curriculum planning

LESSON 2: Developing a Standard-based Curriculum

- Standard-based curriculum
- Yearlong curriculum
- Elements of a long-term scope and sequence of curriculum
- Types of curriculum maps
- Backwards planning
- Creating a unit plan
- Preparing an effective lesson plan

LESSON 3: Curriculum Integration

- Curriculum and levels of Integration
- Approaches of integration
- Interdisciplinary curriculum
- Benchmark descriptors of interdisciplinary curriculum
- Models of curriculum integration
- Implications of implementing an integrated curriculum

LESSON 4: Curriculum Evaluation

- Defining curriculum evaluation
- Need for evaluation
- Types and models of curriculum evaluation
- Criteria for evaluation
- Phases of curriculum evaluation
- Tools for evaluation

Pedagogy Essentials

Course Outline

SECTION C: Classroom Organization for the 21st Century

LESSON 1: Being an Organized Teacher

- Understanding the purpose and benefits of classroom organization
- Examining the reality of stress and burnout among teachers
- The traits of an organized teacher
- What makes a teacher organized?
- Classroom examples

LESSON 2: Organizing Your Classroom

- The overarching goals of organizing the classroom space and activities
- Effective classroom layout and design
- Managing classroom material - such as submissions and resources - efficiently
- Organizing classroom activities, including independent, group, and whole class work
- Strategies to manage and track student behavior positively, during lessons and through transitions

LESSON 3: Ten Tech Tools for Organized Teaching

- Essential considerations behind using tech to organize your classroom and teaching
- Ten useful tools/apps to organize teaching responsibilities, and the classroom applications of each

LESSON 4: Classroom Applications

- Planning for continuous assessments in the classroom and methods to carry them out effectively
- Working within a teaching team, partnering and preparing to be a substitute
- Organizing parent partnerships at both one-way and two-way levels
- Getting classroom projects and events efficiently planned and carried out
- Ensuring windup is productive, for teachers and students, at a daily and annual level

15
15 Hours
of Learning

Convenient Access:
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Resources & Tools for
Professional Learning Plans

Students with Disabilities

Standards:

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It also aligns to all of the McRel Teacher Evaluation Standards including Teacher Leadership, Diverse Learners, Teachers Know Content, Teachers Facilitate Learning and Teachers Analyze and Reflect.

While it is certainly challenging to teach all students effectively, this is a real possibility. A research-based framework accommodates every learner and provides practical strategies to add elements of flexibility in teaching presentation, student expression and meaningful engagement. This course helps teachers understand and strive to meet every student's potential for academic excellence.

Teachers will better understand the IEP process through examples for designing, planning, and implementing an IEP and consider assistive communication techniques that can improve classroom communication for students with disabilities. This course provides teachers with tools, strategies, and technologies to create an inclusive classroom.

Certificate of Completion

100% Online

Quizzes

Renew a Teaching License
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Students with Disabilities
Course Outline

SECTION A: Accommodations through UDL

LESSON 1: Basics of UDL (Universal Design of Learning)

- The meaning and need for UDL to meet both teacher and student needs
- Designing comprehensive curriculum and effective assessments
- The basic principles of UDL and their implementation
- Using UDL to meet the varied needs of students by differentiated instruction

LESSON 2: Flexible Methods of Presentation

- Possible barriers to optimal student learning and strategies to overcome them
- Audio-visual and textual strategies of providing multiple options for perception
- Using variety in language, mathematical expressions, and symbols
- Essential strategies in ensuring successful comprehension, maximum transfer, and generalization of learning

LESSON 3: Flexible Methods of Expression

- Effective strategies to successfully engage and challenge students
- Ensuring that the expected physical engagement with the learning environment does not pose barriers for differently-abled students
- Offering alternatives for students to express themselves
- Using the UDL framework to scaffold the skills needed to demonstrate students' executive functioning

LESSON 4: Flexible Options for Engagement

- Providing multiple opportunities so all students are engaged in the classroom
- Strategies to create a positive classroom environment
- Ensuring that the primary goal is enhanced student learning, but eliminating distractions and irrelevant activities
- Promoting students' self-regulation by teaching them personal coping skills, self-assessment, and reflection techniques

Students with Disabilities

Course Outline

SECTION B: IEPS: Documentation and Implementation for Teachers

LESSON 1: Introduction

- Research
- Common special education terms
- Understanding IDEA and IEP
- Understanding Section 504
- The special education process

LESSON 2: The IEP Team

- Setting up the IEP team
- Roles and responsibilities of IEP team members and the IEP team process
- Typical IEP meeting
- Preparing for an IEP meeting

LESSON 3: Developing a Standards-based IEP

- Components of a standards-based IEP
- Standards-based annual goals and post-secondary goals
- Student assessment and progress
- Identifying special education services
- Year-end evaluations

LESSON 4: Translating IEP goals

- Models of school-based interventions
- Classroom accommodations and modifications
- Barriers to effective use of accommodations
- General types of accommodations
- Effective teaching strategies/instructional accommodations
- Testing, timing, and grading accommodations

Students with Disabilities
Course Outline

SECTION C: Assistive Communication for Every Classroom

LESSON 1: Introduction

- Defining Assistive Communication and exploring its benefits and function
- Identifying the laws advocating for and supporting the use of Assistive Technology
- Understanding Assistive Communication, its purpose, and the three types of Assistive Communication devices used in the classroom
- Identifying the four categories of Assistive Communication Technologies

LESSON 2: Low-Tech Strategies for Communication

- The six phases of the Picture Exchange Communication System method
- American Sign Language and its use in the classroom
- Practical application of the Picture Exchange Communication board and Topic rings/wallets in the classroom
- The four main types of Communication cards effective in the classroom

LESSON 3: High-Tech Strategies for Communication

- Different high-tech strategies and their uses for improving communication
- Computer modifications and adaptations enabling students with disabilities to achieve academic excellence
- Practical application of the devices with regard to Physical, Visual, Communication and Learning disabilities
- Identifying the smartphone applications that can enable communication

LESSON 4: Implementing Assistive and Alternative Communication in Classrooms

- Understanding the role of the teacher and the Assistive Communication team with regard to Assistive and Alternative communication
- Exploring the process of implementation and classroom observations of Assistive and Alternative Communication in the classrooms
- Defining the Multi-modal approach to communication and the three Levels of communication
- The strategies facilitating communication, group work, assessment, and homework

15
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