

MN Requirements Package #2 (40 Hours)



The MN Requirements Package #2 includes 7 self-study courses (5 or 10 hours each) for a total 40 hours of PD. This package includes the requirements for cultural competency, mental health, PBIS, reading instruction, suicide prevention, ELL, and accommodations, modifications, and adaption.

- Accommodating All Learners
- Cultural Competency and Reflective Teaching
- Early Reading Skills
- Language Acquisition
- Recognition of Early-onset Mental Health Illness in Children & Adolescents
- Suicide Prevention
- Transformative Classroom Management

Accommodating All Learners



Accommodations, Modifications, and Adaption Requirement

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.

Reach and teach all learners by examining 21st century student and educator strengths in this research-based course packed with strategies, resources, and tools. Participants will gain insight into both their own learning and teaching preferences as well as the learning styles of students.

Closely aligned with national standards and pedagogical goals, this course addresses accommodation, modification, and adaptation of curriculum, materials, and instruction to appropriately meet the needs of varied students in achieving graduation standards (i.e., differentiated instruction).



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Accommodating All Learners

Course Outline

LESSON 1: Every Learner Learning

- Teaching and learning
- Accommodating all learners
- About the brain
- Introduction to learning styles
- Teacher as a learner
- The Paragon Learning Style Inventory (PLSI)

LESSON 2: Who Are Our Students? Teaching Across Types

- Characteristics of today's youth
- Aspects of physical and cognitive access to the general curriculum
- Academic learning styles and students' skill development as it aligns with age
- The concept of perception and differences in perception
- How to build a win-win pedagogy based on the 5 principles
- Strategies to employ when the teacher's learning style conflicts with students' styles
- Thinking styles

LESSON 3: Technology

- Media as a flexible tool to reach all learners
- Recent research on technology and traditional models of delivery
- Traditional media versus digital media
- Digital media and how it can be used to customize materials and methods
- Technology timeline

LESSON 4: Theories and Strategies

- Components of multiple intelligences
- Activities to develop each type of intelligence
- Bloom's taxonomy, differentiated instruction, and informal learning
- Hemisphericity and activities that can stimulate both left and right sides of the brain
- The 4-quadrant model



5 Hours
of Learning



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Resources & Tools for
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Cultural Competency and Reflective Teaching



Cultural Competency Requirement

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.



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Cultural Competency and Reflective Teaching

Course Outline

SECTION A: Cultural Competency and Responsive Teaching

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

SECTION B: Reflective Teaching Practices

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



10 Hours
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Early Reading Skills



Reading Instruction Requirement

Standards:

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

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

The development of early literary and reading skills are the foundation for every student's education. Gain a comprehensive understanding of challenges that hold potential readers back, including phonological impairments and reading disorders. Adopt best science-research-based reading strategies to tackle these including use of explicit, systematic, and sequential approaches to reading instruction, developing phonemic awareness, and implementing multisensory intervention strategies.

An incredibly useful tool for teachers looking to unlock their students' reading potential, this course is a must-have for teachers.



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Early Reading Skills

Course Outline

LESSON 1: Language Development

- Stages of reading development
- The role of neuroscience in language development
- Reading wars and speech-language impairments
- Reading disorders and assessment for reading disorders

LESSON 2: Reading Disorders

- Growth mindset approach and “think-aloud” strategy
- Zone of proximal development (ZPD)
- Gradual release of responsibility
- Fostering early literacy at home and play & literacy

LESSON 3: Supporting Early Literacy Skills

- Purposeful conversations and vocabulary
- Academic vocabulary and narratives
- Phonological words and syllable awareness
- Rhyming, onset, rime, and phonemic awareness

LESSON 4: Phonics

- Letter-sound relations and keyword for each letter
- Word building and decoding words
- Letter tiles and elkonin boxes
- Sound-spelling patterns and encoding (spelling)



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Language Acquisition



ELL Requirement

Standards:

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

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

Delve into theories of the language acquisition process, and uncover practical ways for teachers to help English Language Learners understand lesson content.

Through the strategies and information provided in this course, teachers are equipped to meet students at their specific stage of language learning, create aligned activities, and help students achieve higher levels of linguistic fluency.

The techniques presented cover the acquisition and mastery of literacy skills for students including reading, writing, and dialogue, as well as understanding and supporting English Language Learners at a deeper level.



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Language Acquisition

Course Outline

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)



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Recognition of Early-onset Mental Health Illness in Children & Adolescents



Mental Health Requirement

Standards:

This course aligns to the INTASC Standards including Learning Differences, Learning Environments, Content Knowledge, Planning for Instruction and Instructional Strategies.

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

As educators, we are often the first to notice that a child may be experiencing problems.

Through this course, teachers develop a basic understanding of key warning signs of early-onset mental illness in children and adolescents. This knowledge strengthens teacher-parent communications and supports professional teaching and learning.



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Recognition of Early-onset Mental Health Illness in Children & Adolescents

Course Outline

LESSON 1: Introduction to Mental Illnesses

- An overview of the prevalence, nature, causes, and experience of mental illnesses
- Understanding effective treatments and the role and limitations of medication
- The application of behavioral therapy and other creative therapies under the umbrella of Cognitive Behavior Therapy to target the root of the problem
- The stigma associated with mental illnesses and ways to combat it
- The educational implications of the evaluation and treatment of mental illnesses

LESSON 2: ADHD, ODD, and Anxiety in the Classroom

- Understanding the manifestations of ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder) in the classroom and ways to manage behavior effectively in this context
- The common signs, treatments, and classroom strategies to deal with ODD (Oppositional Defiant Disorder) and CD (Conduct Disorder)
- The various subtypes within Anxiety Disorders, their treatment, and classroom applications

LESSON 3: Other Mental Health Conditions in Children

- Symptoms and warning signs of OCD, Schizophrenia, Bipolar Disorder, PTSD, etc.
- Treatments
- Classroom applications and strategies

LESSON 4: The Team

- Working with parents
- The role of mental health professionals
- The IEP process
- Understanding assessments and assignments



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Suicide Prevention



Suicide Prevention Requirement

Standards:

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

It also aligns to the McRel Teacher Evaluation Standards including Teacher Leadership and Diverse Learners

This course looks at the important role teachers play in suicide prevention.

Learning the warning signs of suicide may help teachers recognize which students could be at risk for suicide.

Discover how teachers can collaborate with the school and the greater community to help create and maintain safer environments.

This course integrates the Suicide Prevention Resource Center's research and materials in collaboration with the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention.



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Suicide Prevention

Course Outline

LESSON 1: Introduction

- Suicide: myths and truths
- Role of mental health
- Suicide warning signs
- Interventions & treatments

LESSON 2: Resilience

- Adolescent stressors
- Responsibility and self-esteem
- Social and emotional learning
- Connections and relationships

LESSON 3: Helping Students at Risk

- Response protocol
- Dealing with suicide
- Healthy response to grief
- Non-fatal suicide attempts

LESSON 4: Schools & Communities

- Need for school involvement
- Suicide prevention programs
- Crisis response teams
- Family partnerships



5 Hours
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Resources & Tools for
Professional Learning Plans

Suicide Prevention

Course Outline

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Transformative Classroom Management



Positive Behavior Intervention Strategies (PBIS) Requirement

Standards:

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

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

All students are unique and group dynamics, cultural backgrounds, and experiences vary — sometimes dramatically. But for the most part, sound ideas get positive results and unsound ideas get mixed results at best.

Not all ideas sold in the marketplace of classroom management strategies lead to desirable results. In fact, many of the most popular ideas result in more harm than good.

This course is a synthesis of what's effective in the area of classroom management. It builds on extensive time, real experiences of teachers, observations of hundreds of classrooms, research, and the best ideas put into successful practice.



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Transformative Classroom Management

Course Outline

LESSON 1: Classroom Management

- Identifying common attributes in transformative classrooms that instill essential skills for student success
- Examining attitudes and pedagogical choices that promote effective classroom management
- Analyzing popular but ineffective strategies that promote classroom dysfunction

LESSON 2: Classroom Expectations

- The importance of laying out clear and shared expectations in the classroom
- Examining intentional classroom management strategies to identify the nature and outcomes of each
- The need for consistent implementation and positive expectations for long-term benefits

LESSON 3: Technical Management

- The need for teachers to be experts at technical classroom management strategies
- Identifying the essential principles behind a focused vision and classroom culture
- Understanding the nature of student attention and strategies to secure it

LESSON 4: Student Motivation

- The distinctions between intrinsic and extrinsic motivation, and the need to develop the former
- Strategies to develop each type of motivation and their limitations
- The nature and role of external rewards like grades and incentives
- The basic needs fulfilled by internal rewards and ways to reinforce them



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