

MT Relicensure Package (60 hours)



The MT Relicensure Package includes 12 self-study courses (5 hours each) for a total 60 hours of PD.

- Classroom Collaboration
- Curriculum Development
- Formative Assessment
- Inquiry-based Learning
- Language Acquisition
- Mathematics for All Teachers
- Project Management for Students through Project-based Learning
- Reading Across the Curriculum
- Research-based Instructional Strategies
- Rubrics in Teaching and Learning
- Student-centered Learning
- Transformative Classroom Management

Renew a Teaching License by Professional Learning Board is an approved provider of renewal units in Montana.

Classroom Collaboration



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.

Implement collaborative learning in classrooms and develop successful learners. This framework enables teachers to recognize characteristics of collaborative classrooms, be aware of student and teacher roles, and practice group activities as an essential part of the classroom.

Teachers are introduced to school-wide policy reforms in place today that promote collaboration and group activities. Teachers are also provided with ideas and strategies to accommodate learners, including students with special needs. The practical examples, real-life experiences, and templates in this online course provide teachers a structure to use in their own classrooms.



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Classroom Collaboration

Course Outline

LESSON 1: Introduction

- What is collaborative learning and why should students collaborate?
- Collaboration vs. Traditional Approach
- Benefits and Importance of collaborative learning
- Overview on effective collaboration in the classroom
- Alignment of collaboration to State Standards
- The Collaborative Learning Model

LESSON 2: Collaborative Tools and Strategies

- Characteristics of a collaborative teacher
- Grouping strategies and designing grouping assignments
- Collaborative learning techniques
- Web tools and projects for collaboration
- Interactions and activities in a collaborative classroom
- Around the world collaboration
- Resources for collaboration

LESSON 3: The Collaborative Classroom

- Characteristics of a collaborative classroom
- Student and teacher roles in a collaborative classroom
- Preparing for collaborative activities
- Examples of classroom collaboration and collaborative learning spaces
- Managing today's classroom

LESSON 4: Assessment, Accommodations, and Challenges

- Collaborative assessment
- Approaches to collaborative assessment
- Challenges in a collaborative classroom
- Conflict resolution
- School-wide policies to promote collaboration



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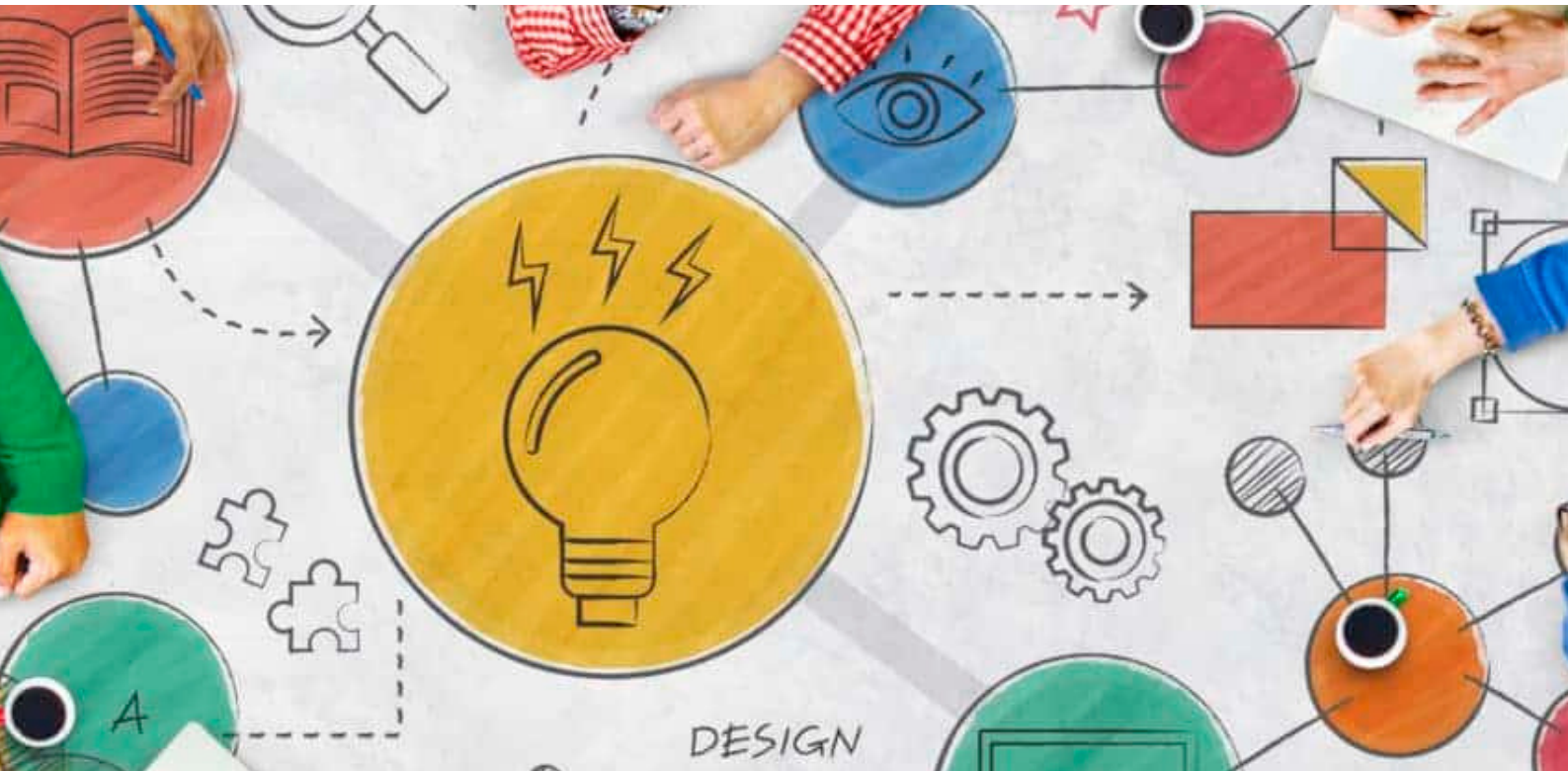
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Curriculum Development



Standards:

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Effective curriculum is a foundation for successful learning. Educators can strengthen the curriculum with the resources, examples, and templates included in this online course.

Teachers learn how to plan, develop, integrate, and evaluate curriculum more effectively. This information empowers teachers to feel more confident when implementing interactivities.



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Curriculum Development

Course Outline

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



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Formative Assessment



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Formative assessments allow teachers to respond to a student's needs quickly, and, even more importantly, allows the student to shape instruction. Effective formative assessments result in instruction that meets the needs of each student.

In this innovative online course, teachers learn about and implement formative assessments. Discover and demonstrate for yourself, your students, and your community what happens when students are truly learning.



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Formative Assessment

Course Outline

LESSON 1: The Essentials

- Concepts behind and purpose of formative assessment
- Practical strategies that may be used to implement formative assessment
- Commonly used formative assessments, including teacher observation, questioning, rubrics, essays, and peer assessment
- Benefits of each strategy and how they can be used effectively

LESSON 2: Nuts and Bolts

- The process of formative assessment
- Concepts behind goal mastery
- The importance of feedback, reports, visual depiction, and celebration in formative assessment
- Designing lesson plans that integrate formative assessment

LESSON 3: Making Connections

- The role of assessment in standards-based education
- Formative and summative assessments, and the difference between the two



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Inquiry-based Learning



Standards:

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

This course offers an Inquiry-based Learning (IBL) framework for teachers. Through practical classroom examples, teachers learn how to encourage student initiative, evaluate student progress, and incorporate technology.

Teachers explore IBL models that can be adapted to meet the specific needs of their class, as well as monitor and enhance student learning.

Design thoughtful and intentional learning environments where you can explore relevant issues and develop effective pedagogy.



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Inquiry-based Learning

Course Outline

LESSON 1: Introduction

- The need of an Inquiry Based Learning (IBL) approach and knowing the constituents involved
- Academic research that supports IBL
- Differences between IBL and traditional education
- Define roles of teachers and students

LESSON 2: Inquiry-based Learning Model

- The need for a model to apply the IBL approach
- Various models developed by academicians
- Practical applications of the inquiry model for teaching lessons
- The emotional trajectory of an inquiry process

LESSON 3: Designing IBL

- The IBL foundations for effective lesson plans and activities
- Ways to classify students based on their understanding and experience with IBL
- Manage the dynamic classroom environment
- Principles and methods of assessing students

LESSON 4: Enhancing the IBL Classroom

- Creation of a support system for effective inquiry-based learning
- Use of technology to enhance the IBL experience
- Technology as a tool for professional development
- Web tools that can help at different stages of inquiry



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Language Acquisition



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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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Mathematics for All Teachers



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Mathematics education is evolving - instead of just solving questions on paper, it's all about practical application. Math is also connected with every other subject taught in the classroom. This course will help all teachers gain confidence in integrating math effectively into their teaching practice.

Teachers will understand math practices, application of math through standards, and the different ways a teacher can enhance student learning. This course encourages teachers to set up their classroom in a way that increases student involvement and makes math real and fun for everyone.



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Mathematics for All Teachers

Course Outline

LESSON 1: Introduction

- History of mathematics
- The truth about math
- Discrediting the different math myths
- The solution to math anxiety

LESSON 2: Math Practices

- Mathematics redefined
- NCTM and CCSS standards related to math
- Mathematical practices and strategies to employ in the classroom

LESSON 3: Facilitating Student Learning

- Motivation theories and how to apply them in the classroom
- Different learning styles
- Understanding brain power
- Content knowledge and application

LESSON 4: Setting Up

- Math and group work
- Making connections between math and real life
- Using mathematical tools
- Encouraging persistence, providing novelty, and differentiating instruction while teaching math



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Project Management for Students through Project-based Learning



Standards:

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Project management encompasses a range of skills – including research, collaboration, communication, leadership, problem-solving, and cooperation. Teachers must integrate project management training into their classrooms without disrupting the curricular learning.

Keeping in mind the challenges this poses, teachers are presented with project-based learning as a means to successfully develop students' skills while simultaneously keeping the focus on topics within the curriculum.

Teachers are provided with a wide range of examples and strategies, along with an in-depth view into the effective use of projects, and an understanding of how they can influence student growth at every stage.



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Project Management for Students through Project-based Learning

Course Outline

LESSON 1: Importance of Project Management

- Exploring new concepts and strategies to facilitate student connection with real-world situations
- Research findings of project-based learning
- Principles, benefits, and rationale of project-based learning
- Transferrable skills while working with the project based learning system

LESSON 2: Planning for Successful Project Based Learning

- Basic guidelines to consider before selecting a project
- Ensuring authentic learning for students
- Effective technology use during a project
- Developing classroom culture

LESSON 3: Stages of Successful Implementation

- Stages of projects with examples for implementing
- Learning to allocate resources
- Existing project opportunities
- Common challenges and unexpected changes during a project

LESSON 4: Resources and Engagement

- Project examples with management skills to execute them
- Integrating technology in project management
- Importance of community connect for successful implementation of the project
- Funding sources and online databases that teachers can approach for grants



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Reading Across the Curriculum



Standards:

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Reading is an essential component of learning. Often, when students struggle with a specific subject matter it is because of poor reading instruction and underdeveloped reading skills.

Full of research-based reading instruction techniques, this course can be used across all content areas and grade levels to improve student achievement. Teacher learn new ideas for motivating students to read more and improve reading comprehension.

This course provides tools, exercises, and additional resources that you can use to practice new skills. Dive into the world of reading instruction and get geared up to make your students proficient readers.



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Reading Across the Curriculum

Course Outline

LESSON 1: Research

- The importance and nature of the 'reading' skill
- Language development in the early years
- Implications of different levels of daily language exposure
- How the brain processes what we already know and have experienced to develop reading skills

LESSON 2: Reading Assessments

- Diversity of students' reading abilities
- The purpose of reading assessments and components
- Common reading assessments and their usage
- Cloze and CARL to measure reading performance

LESSON 3: Basic Reading Strategies

- Basic reading strategies and accessing results
- Essential elements and traditional lesson formats
- Pre-reading, the reading process, and post-reading
- Effective ways to extend the life of the text beyond the lesson

LESSON 4: Reading Across Content Areas

- Scaffolding a common textbook to support varying reading levels using four steps
- Using different books on a common topic or learning objective to meet differing needs
- Question-Answer Relationships (QARS)
- Effectively approaching different structures of texts



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Research-based Instructional Strategies



Standards:

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

Educators must continually review, reflect, and work on their instructional skills. This helps students improve in academic achievement, develop an attitude of learning, and acquire skills.

This course provides teachers with research-based approaches and practical strategies to enhance the effectiveness of teacher led instruction and encourage active student involvement in learning.

Teachers will examine their own views and explore common educational myths. With examples, templates, and rubrics, teachers will be able to incorporate new strategies across the curriculum.



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Research-based Instructional Strategies

Course Outline

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



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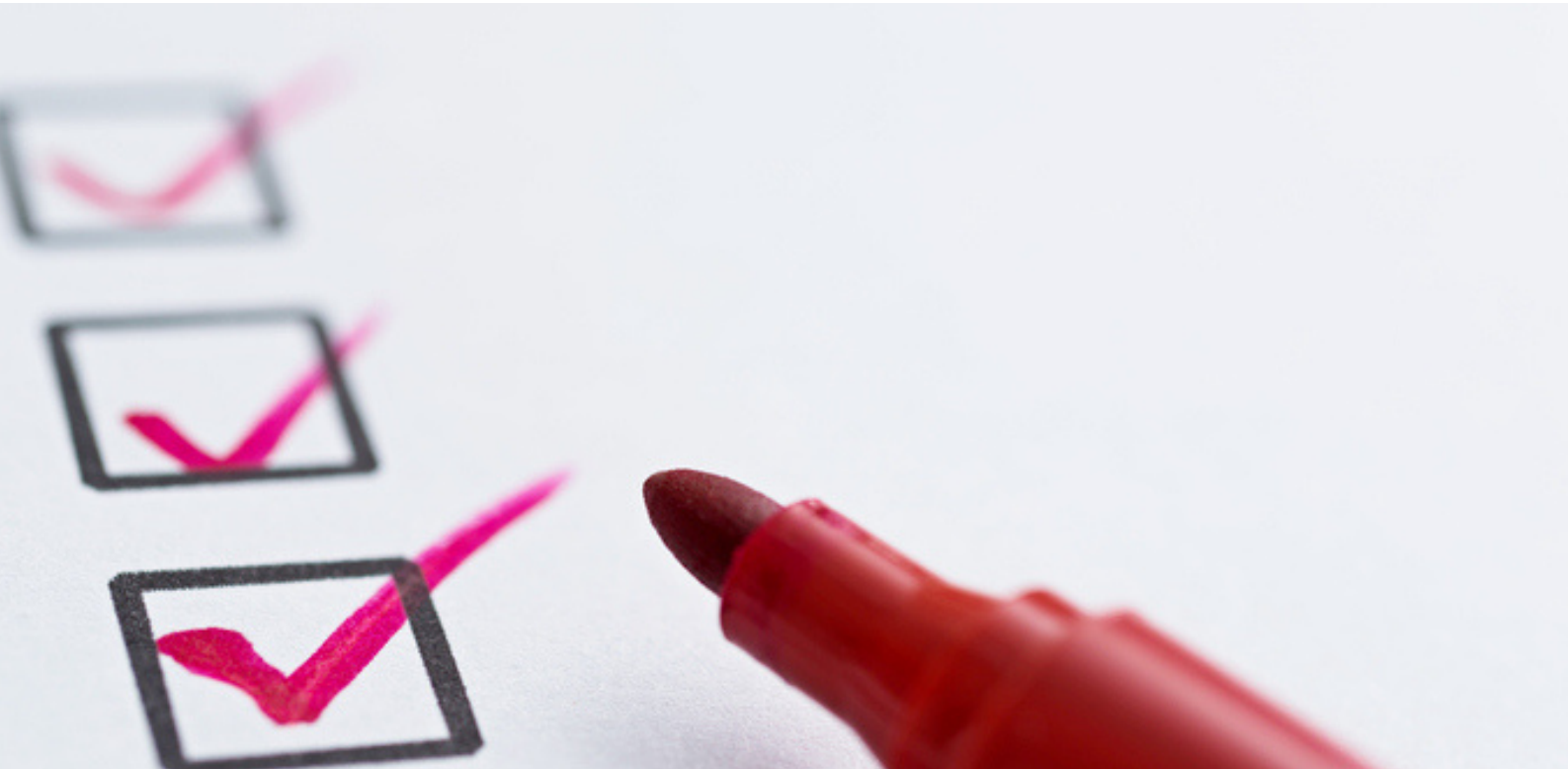


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Rubrics in Teaching and Learning



Standards:

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

A rubric is more than an assessment.

By using consistent grading, teachers can provide quality formative and summative feedback for students at periodic intervals throughout the year.

Teachers use rubrics to grade a wide range of student work, including: solo projects, group work, portfolios, homework assignments, book reviews, and tests.



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Rubrics in Teaching and Learning

Course Outline

LESSON 1: Introduction

- The purpose, significance and characteristics of rubrics in education
- Different types of rubrics
- Learning to choose rubrics to match specific needs

LESSON 2: Design and Implementation

- Stages in designing a rubric based on required criteria
- Identifying the online resource required
- Seeking feedback and teacher assessment of one's own rubric

LESSON 3: Rubrics in Instruction

- How to use rubrics to enhance instructional effectiveness
- Integrating rubrics into different subjects
- Identifying and meeting diverse learning needs

LESSON 4: Rubrics in Assessment

- Usefulness of assessment rubrics and description of its different elements
- Role of a teacher in developing and implementing effective assessment rubrics
- Assessment rubric based on standards and teacher self-assessment rubric



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Student-centered Learning



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Teachers committed to student development look forward to lively, stimulating, and effective learning environments where their students are self-motivated, able to build on what they already know, and equipped for the real-world.

The student-centered learning approach provides a fitting framework for designing a classroom that shifts focus from the basic implementation of standardized curriculum and assignments to a more creative, organic facilitation of subject content and student activity.

This course presents resources, research-validated strategies, and practical examples to equip teachers with the necessary toolkit to seamlessly turn their classrooms into student-centered environments.



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Student-centered Learning

Course Outline

LESSON 1: Introduction

- Meaning, characteristics, and principles of Student-centered Learning
- Comparison between teacher-led and student-centered approaches
- Dispelling myths regarding student-centered classrooms
- Student-centered learning and the standards

LESSON 2: Setting Objectives and Providing Feedback in the SCL Classroom

- Developing student-centered learning objectives
- Facets of understanding
- Staying on track through learning logs
- Assessment and feedback techniques

LESSON 3: SCL Strategies for the Classroom

- Understanding the teacher's role in a student-centered classroom
- Teaching and learning methods
- Ensuring student motivation
- Classroom strategies for integrating SCL techniques

LESSON 4: Setting up for Success

- Potential of technology in key areas of learning
- Tools that enhance learning in student-centered classrooms
- Getting parents involved in learning
- Extending learning opportunities outside of school hours



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Transformative Classroom Management



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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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