

# PA Recertification Package (180 Hours)



The PA Recertification Package includes 36 self-study courses (5 hours each) for a total of 180 hours of professional development.

- Accommodating All Learners
- Accommodations through UDL
- Apps for Education
- Child Abuse Prevention
- Classroom Collaboration
- Classroom Management for Positive Behaviors
- Classroom Organization for the 21st Century
- Cognitive Skills - Understanding Learning Challenges
- Cultural Competency and Responsive Teaching
- Curriculum Development
- English Language Learners in the Classroom
- Examining and Evaluating Student Work
- Formative Assessment
- IEPs: Documentation and Implementation for Teachers

# VA Relicensure Package #1 (180 Hours)

- Inquiry-based Learning
- Integrating Standards in Teaching
- Internet Safety in a Connected World
- Introduction to Autism
- Introduction to Technology
- Language Acquisition
- Partnering with Parents
- Project Management for Students through Project-based Learning
- Public Speaking for Teachers
- Reading Across the Curriculum
- Reading through Technology in the Classroom
- Recognition of Early-onset Mental Health Illness in Children & Adolescents
- Reflective Teaching Practices
- Research-based Instructional Strategies
- Standards-based Instruction through STEM
- Student Portfolio
- Suicide Prevention
- Tackling Tough Text
- Technology in the 21st Century Classroom
- Transformative Classroom Management
- Understanding ADHD
- Virtual Field Trips

# Accommodating All Learners



## 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



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# Accommodations through UDL



## 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.

Teaching each and every student effectively is never easy. Teachers are faced with the challenge of teaching a diverse group the same lesson and ensuring that they all learn in the process.

This course is designed to present teachers with the Universal Design of Learning (UDL) framework, which builds on research that shows how a single teaching approach has very limited results on student learning, highlighting the need for a new curricular approach.

This course is centered around exploring practical strategies that can be used to add a much needed element of flexibility in teaching presentation, student expression, and meaningful engagement.



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# Accommodations through UDL

## Course Outline

### 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



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# Apps for Education



## 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 Facilitate Learning.

Integrate Ruben Puentedura's SAMR model with Alan November's work on Transformative Learning to find the best apps to educate YOUR students.

In this course, teachers will be equipped to go beyond using an app merely because someone else has recommended it and fully examine the true learning potential.

With an integrated approach, teachers can successfully consider an apps' connections with curriculum content and ability to amplify existing learning levels, while systematically evaluating their transformative learning capability.



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# Apps for Education

## Course Outline

### LESSON 1: Considerations, Content and Components

- Apps that encourage students to engage with a greater degree of independent thought
- The key skills in Bloom's Taxonomy and how they can be applied while considering an app for educational use
- Using November's Digital Learning Farm to empower students with targeted apps
- The use of apps to teach the various "multiple intelligences" in Garner's learning theory
- Specific skills and literacies essential for effective teaching and learning in the 21st century and choosing apps that promote their development
- Essential content and components to look for in apps

### LESSON 2: Logistics and Fluency

- Common logistical concerns with using apps, and how to address and anticipate them
- The importance of achieving fluency in app usage to ensure better learning potential
- Essential phases in app fluency to measure against an app's performance

### LESSON 3: Learning with Apps

- Transitioning from using apps to "substitute" traditional teaching, to a more transformational approach
- Ways to enhance students' learning through Puentedura's SAMR models
- The integration of November's three phases to ensure rigorous app evaluation
- The use of concrete evidence of students' learning as the ultimate decider on the future use of an app

### LESSON 4: Sample Evaluation and Recommendations

- Evaluation of an app against all the considerations discussed in the course to find one with optimal teaching potential
- Recommended apps, across iOS, Android and Windows platforms, for the following classroom purposes: Storytelling, Photography, Visualization and Mind Mapping, Note Taking, Book Creators, Screen Casting, Word Clouds, Photo Collages, Drawing, Video, Audio Recording



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# Child Abuse Prevention



## Standards:

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

Child abuse and trafficking are serious issues threatening the safety and well being of children.

As teachers, our responsibility is not limited to academic performance, but to the overall development and welfare of our students. It is vital that we fight against child abuse and trafficking. This course will equip you with the information and skills to do so.

This course primarily focuses on a teacher's role as a mandatory reporter. You will be introduced to fundamental facts, indicators, and risk factors related to child abuse and trafficking. Understanding this information is crucial to identification for victims, including procedures for helping ensure the safety of students.



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# Child Abuse Prevention

## Course Outline

### LESSON 1: Introduction

- Defining child abuse and neglect
- Exploring the different types of child abuse and neglect and identifying the signs and behaviors characterizing each type
- Defining Trafficking
- Exploring the signs, types and risk factors for trafficking

### LESSON 2: Child Abuse Perpetrators

- Exploring the characteristics of child abuse perpetrators
- Identifying the causes and risk factors leading to child abuse and neglect and the role of technology in child maltreatment
- Understanding how and where child abuse can occur and learning about the process of grooming

### LESSON 3: Reporting Child Abuse

- Understanding mandated reporting and the role of educators as mandated reporters
- Learning how to report cases of child abuse and neglect, its procedures and formalities
- Exploring the procedures of Child Protection Services and how to assist them with their investigation

### LESSON 4: Prevention of Child Abuse

- Exploring the role of educators in preventing child abuse and neglect
- Identifying child abuse preventive strategies that educators can engage in at the classroom, school, and community level
- Identifying strategies by which the cycle of abuse can be prevented or broken



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# 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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# Classroom Management for Positive Behaviors



## Standards:

This course aligns to the INTASC Standards including Learner Development, Learning Environments, Content Knowledge, Application of Content, 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.

Students from all backgrounds, temperaments, and abilities should have access to a classroom ambience that is conducive to their learning. Positive Behavior Management helps educators transform challenging behavior, systemically and individually, to create such an environment.

Learn evidence-based Positive Behavior Intervention Solutions (PBIS) practices to identify and eliminate triggers in the classroom, encourage positive behaviors, and give students individualized care and support.

This proactive PBIS approach, with three tiers of interventions, can strengthen students' relationships, improve their communication skill, and circumvent conflict.



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# Classroom Management for Positive Behaviors

## Course Outline

### LESSON 1: A Positive Classroom Climate

- What is PBIS and why teach positive behaviors?
- Behavior management and social skills
- Instructional and environmental management
- Parent support and the three-tier framework

### LESSON 2: Primary Prevention

- What is primary prevention?
- Guidelines
- Behavior management strategies
- Basic teaching approach

### LESSON 3: Secondary Prevention

- Eligibility
- Features
- Identifying students
- Secondary interventions

### LESSON 4: Tertiary Prevention

- Selection of students
- Implementation strategies
- Parental involvement



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# Classroom Organization for the 21st Century



## Standards:

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

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

Good teaching is both an art and a science. It requires a significant amount of planning, research, preparation, evaluation, and a whole lot of creativity. However, that doesn't mean teachers need to sacrifice their personal and family life for education. The key to "doing it all" and "doing it all well" is organization. A rested, relaxed, and organized teacher is an effective teacher.

This course is full of tips, tools, templates, and creative ideas to help teachers organize the classroom environment, classroom activities, assessments, and other class events. Organized teachers can take practical steps to manage stressful days and avoid time crunches, creating a positive impact on both themselves and their students.



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# Classroom Organization for the 21st Century

## Course Outline

### 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



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# Cognitive Skills - Understanding Learning Challenges



## 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.

The U.S. Department of Education and others indicate that weak cognitive skills are the source of over 80% of learning problems.

Students approach each task with varying learning tools, called cognitive skills, and these skills determine the quality, speed, and ease with which individuals learn and perform.

This course provides methods for detecting students with weak cognitive skills and tools to strengthen those skills. Teachers will receive understanding, as well as ways to apply development techniques in the classroom. This fun and interactive course includes information about new brain research and how it can impact today's classrooms.



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# Cognitive Skills - Understanding Learning Challenges

## Course Outline

### LESSON 1: Introduction

- Unlocking your students' complete learning potential
- The prevalence of learning challenges and the need for effective special education
- The crucial role of teachers and schools in maximizing educational impact
- The importance of cognitive skills for successful living

### LESSON 2: Testing

- How tests are administered and interpreted
- The two main types of tests and their different goals
- The role of IQ scores and phonemic awareness
- Common contemporary approaches to diagnosed learning issues and the significance of cognitive skills in making a lasting impact on students' learning

### LESSON 3: Cognitive Skills

- Understanding the nature of student learning and the role cognitive skills play in it
- Identifying and accurately assessing cognitive weaknesses
- The features and significance of specific cognitive skills
- The inter-connected nature of skills and specific abilities closely associated with cognitive growth

### LESSON 4: The Brain

- Contemporary research on the functioning of the brain
- The role and nature of attention and memory in the learning process
- Understanding dyslexia and effective approaches to it
- The significance of parental involvement and the need for practice

### LESSON 5: Effective Training

- The role of the brain in laying essential foundations for learning
- Specific methods to build and strengthen cognitive skills
- The need for effective cognitive training to be non-academic in nature



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# Cultural Competency and Responsive Teaching



## 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.

Teachers deepen their understanding of their own frames of reference, potential bias, and impact on expectations for and relationships with students, students' families, and school communities.

This course demonstrates responsive teaching in the classroom by helping teachers consider, connect with, and build competence in meeting the many learning needs of all students while addressing culturally diverse classrooms that are sensitive and equitable to learners across languages, genders, religions, cultural backgrounds, and special needs.



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# Cultural Competency and Responsive 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.*



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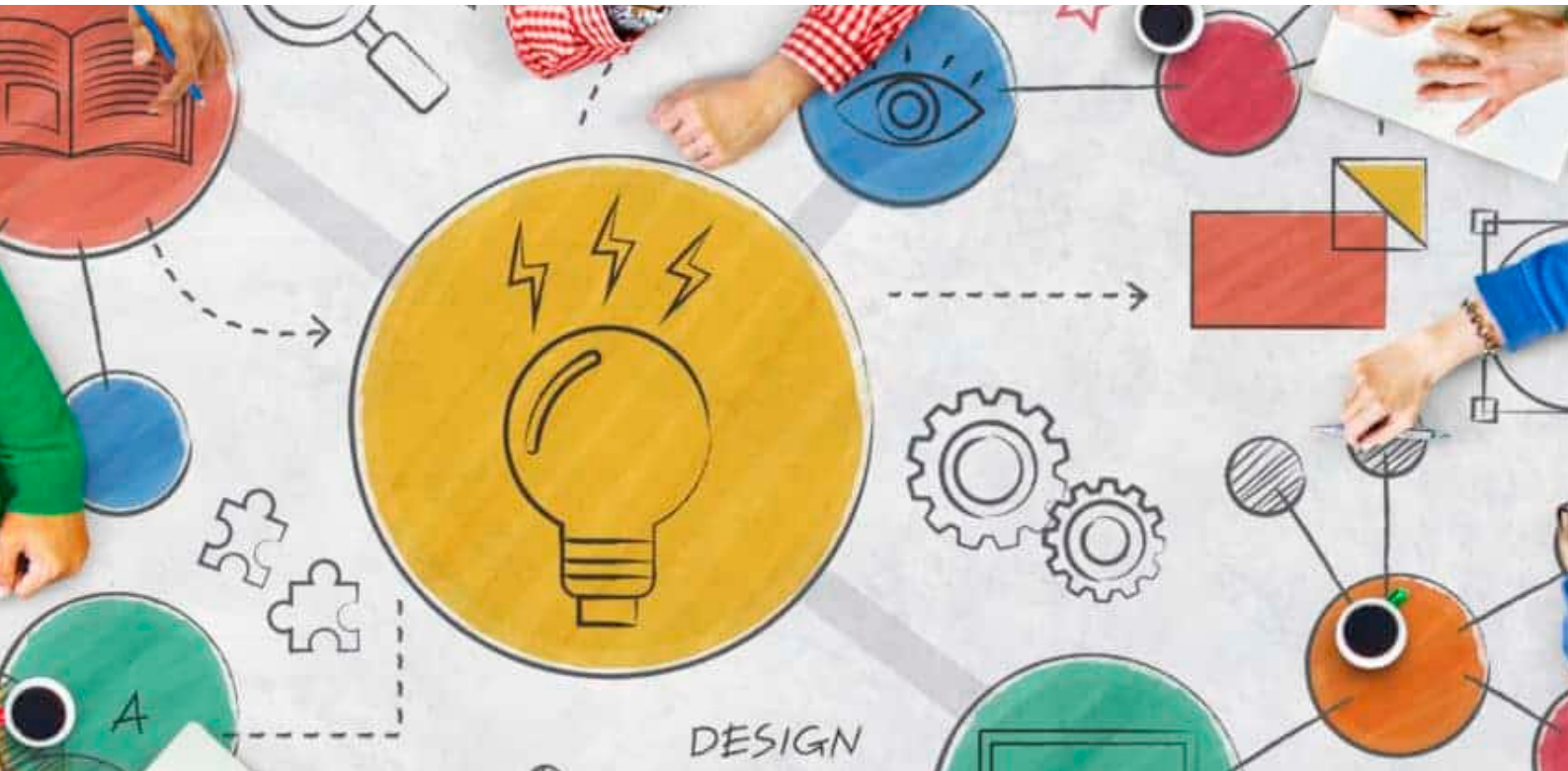
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# Curriculum Development



## 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, Teachers Know Content and Teachers Facilitate Learning.

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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# English Language Learners in the Classroom



## 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.

Facilitate optimal learning in the classroom by helping English Language Learners feel validated. This course includes a range of strategies and activities that lead to interactions which benefit the four language skill areas of listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

The Sheltered Instruction (SI) model is presented along with ways to apply this model when teaching English Language Learners. The importance of working collaboratively and ensuring the involvement of parents to enhance learning is emphasized with corresponding strategies. Through a range of research-based findings, teachers are equipped to engage students in “higher order thinking skills” and design a sufficiently challenging curriculum.



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# English Language Learners in the Classroom

## Course Outline

### 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



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# Examining and Evaluating Student Work



## Standards:

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

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

Evaluating student learning goes beyond merely grading papers. Both schools and teachers need to intentionally move toward assessing students' understanding, and then use this insight to enhance teaching and learning practices.

The wealth of resources and classroom examples provided in this course enables teachers to enhance existing evaluation practices. Calling for a shift in approach, this course lays out effective and dynamic methods by which teachers can assess student work. These help ensure that educational focus remains entirely on both teacher and student development.



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# Examining and Evaluating Student Work

## Course Outline

### LESSON 1: Evaluating Student Work

- Meaning of assessment and why it is needed for growth
- Considering criticism of assessment methods
- What constitutes a well-designed assessment?
- Tools of holistic assessment

### LESSON 2: Effective Grading Process

- The key to consistent assessment
- Learning to grade group work
- Practical tips for handling complaints
- Creating rubrics to assist the grading process

### LESSON 3: Examining Student Work

- Introduction to examining student work and research that supports it
- Drawing teachers into an inquiry-based learning experience
- Examining student work to change practice
- Turning apprehensions into learning opportunities

### LESSON 4: Planning, Process and Takeaways

- Planning and carrying out ESW meetings
- Choosing appropriate student work samples
- Facilitating collaborative work
- Using protocols for smooth functioning



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# Formative Assessment



## 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.

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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# IEPs: Documentation and Implementation for Teachers



## Standards:

This course aligns to the INTASC Standards including Learner Development, Learning Environments, Content Knowledge, Application of Content, 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.

The goal of this course is to help teachers get comfortable with and understand the Individualized Education Program (IEP) process. Through rich examples and templates, teachers learn to understand and incorporate recommended IEP strategies in a classroom setting.

Through developing, aligning with, and carrying out the IEP, teachers can provide children with an appropriate education in the least restrictive environment.

Teachers will examine various supports and services a student with special needs may receive for instruction and testing, explore regulations and requirements, and develop a collaborative team to improve education for children with special needs.



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# IEPs: Documentation and Implementation for Teachers

## Course Outline

### 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



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# Inquiry-based Learning



## 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.

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



5 Hours  
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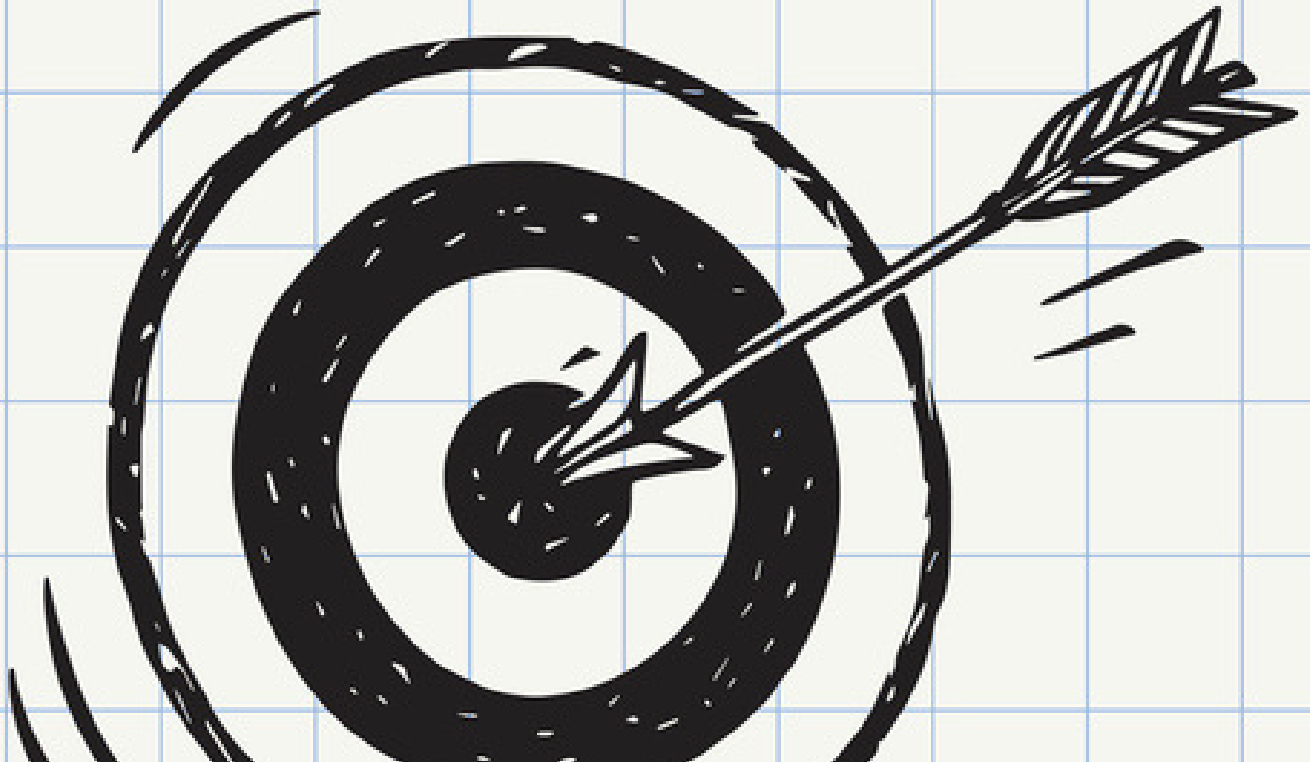
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# Integrating Standards in Teaching



## 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.

We're told that a standards-based curriculum is supposed to increase student learning and promote higher student achievement, but what is it really all about?

This course helps educators untangle what turns out to be the not-so-mysterious-language of today's teaching and learning, and put successful strategies into practice.



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# Integrating Standards in Teaching

## Course Outline

### LESSON 1: Standards

- What standards are and the difference between content and performance standards
- Challenges that teachers and schools face while integrating standards
- About the standards

### LESSON 2: Integrating Standards

- Integrated curriculum
- Levels of integration
- Discipline integration, combined integration, multidiscipline integration, interdisciplinary integration, trans disciplinary integration, and how these can be implemented in the classroom

### LESSON 3: Impact on People, Instruction and Planning

- The teacher's role and the student's role in planning
- Procedural and conceptual knowledge
- Evaluating standards and building a framework in order to implement them
- The importance of learning objectives

### LESSON 4: Principles of Assessment

- Pre-assessment
- Difference between formative and summative assessments
- Concepts related to designing and implementing assessments including backward design and testing
- Principle of authentic assessment



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# Internet Safety in a Connected World



## Standards:

This course aligns to the INTASC Standards including Learning Environments and Planning for Instruction.

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

Technology has become an integral part of our lives, but it also presents risks - especially for children.

In this course, teachers learn about the different kinds of online threats and how they can protect themselves and their students. The course includes:

- Social media
- Texting
- Video games
- Cyberbullying
- Online predators
- Tips & tools for protecting children online
- And more....



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# Internet Safety in a Connected World

## Course Outline

### LESSON 1: Connecting on the Internet

- Social media
- Features and red flags of social media
- Posting and viewing photographs and videos safely
- Smart watches

### LESSON 2: The Internet in Daily Life

- Diverse means of electronic communication
- Gaming and virtual worlds
- E-commerce and digital footprints
- Existing dangers
- Interactive scenarios:
- Handling peer pressure and secure chatting options

### LESSON 3: Downloading from the Internet

- Shielding unauthorized copying and piracy
- Sending out files
- Plagiarism
- Software that harms computers and guidelines to prevent this

### LESSON 4: Staying Safe on the Internet

- Online predators and their behaviors – grooming and gifting
- Cyberbullying: forms and effects
- Monitoring software and parental controls with usage agreements
- Reporting online crimes, gathering evidence, and calling for help



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# Introduction to Autism



## Standards:

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

Most of us know someone with autism. This neurodevelopmental condition impacts a student's ability to communicate, form social skills, and manage sensory challenges. Autism often affects a student's academic potential and learning style in the classroom. A person with autism may experience a unique way of thinking, remembering events, reacting, and communicating.

In this course, educators will find tried and tested strategies, tips, real-life examples, and insights to create more inclusive classrooms and help students on the autism spectrum thrive.



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# Introduction to Autism

## Course Outline

### LESSON 1: Overview

- Definition
- Symptoms and other similar conditions
- Therapies
- Labeling neurodevelopmental disorders
- The brain in Autism Spectrum Disorder

### LESSON 2: Social Skills in ASD

- Social skills and related challenges.
- Theory of the mind
- Teaching non-verbal learners
- Verbal processing, echolalia, perseveration, and scripting
- Abstract language, eye contact, empathy, spatial terms, and pronouns

### LESSON 3: Expressions of Autism

- Sensory hyposensitivity and hypersensitivity
- Splintered development, perseveration, and stress
- Part-to-whole or whole-to-part thinking
- The lack of social motivation and imagination in children with ASD
- Extraordinary abilities

### LESSON 4: ASD in School

- Neurological differences in children with ASD
- Central Coherence Theory
- Classroom physical environment
- Teaching materials and strategies
- Behavior management strategies
- Working with parents and team



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# Introduction to Technology



## 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.

This course introduces and examines technology for educators teaching in a variety of contexts, including in-person, online, and hybrid.

You will develop a better understanding of how to use technology tools and resources to increase engagement in learning and enhance your instructional practices. Tutorials and tips demonstrate applications and guide teachers in improving tech skills and gaining confidence in use.



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# Introduction to Technology

## Course Outline

### LESSON 1: Technology Basics

- Computer basics
- Email
- Benefits and harmful effects of technology
- Devices and gadgets for the classroom

### LESSON 2: Platforms and Providers

- Spreadsheets and Word processing
- Presentation software
- Organization using cloud-based storage applications

### LESSON 3: Interactive Technology

- Digital scavenger hunts
- Interactive quizzes and activities
- Design tools

### LESSON 4: Types and Models of Learning

- Flipped and hybrid classrooms
- Learning Management Systems (LMS)
- Webinars and video conferencing tools



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# Language Acquisition



## 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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# Partnering with Parents



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

In our profession as teachers, we must partner with the parents of our students. The “dream parents” are cooperative, freely volunteer, and carry on the learning process at home. However, many parents need motivation and support to help them partner with the teacher.

In this course, teachers learn about various personalities and come away with an understanding of why parents think the way that they do. You will also discover strategies for common challenging situations.

This course will help enhance your professional interaction and communication skills, as well as help you build lasting relationships with the parents of your students.



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# Partnering with Parents

## Course Outline

### LESSON 1: Introduction

- Structure of teacher and parent partnerships across grade levels
- Common obstacles to partnership
- Dealing with some of the special challenges in the partnership process

### LESSON 2: Understanding the Parent

- Parent types, learning to recognize them and applying the strategies that are suitable for that specific parent type to create successful partnerships
- Basic needs across parent types and how teachers may meet these needs

### LESSON 3: Partnering Strategies

- Ways in which parents can partner, both in the school and from home
- Volunteering at school and the benefits for the student, teacher, and parent
- Volunteering opportunities available for parents in the form of academic activities, creative activities, social activities, support activities, and leadership positions
- Communication methods and strategies

### LESSON 4: Building Lasting Relationships

- How the teachers' attitude and communication style can make or break the partnership relationship
- Communication is addressed in detail, especially relating to various situations such as: when there's an issue, when parents volunteer, and discussing students
- Responding to challenging situations such as parental anger, disruptive students, cheating, stealing, violence, bullying, academic issues, and lies



5 Hours  
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# Project Management for Students through Project-based Learning



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

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



5 Hours  
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# Public Speaking for Teachers



## Standards:

This course aligns to the INTASC Standards including Learner Development, Learning Environments, Content Knowledge and Application of Content.

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

A competent and resourceful teacher must be able to effectively relate to and communicate with students, the school community, peers, parents and even school support structures such as the school board or the PTA. However, most teachers dread public speaking. This course is rich in examples, considerations, suggestions and tips for teachers to improve public speaking skills.

Through the research and strategies in this course, teachers examine how to manage fears and identify specific problem areas. Teachers work on communication skills, both verbal and non-verbal, as well as their technical skills. The resources included also show teachers how to structure their speeches and harness technology to deliver effective speeches.



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# Public Speaking for Teachers

## Course Outline

### LESSON 1: Understanding Public Speaking

- Understanding public speaking, its types and models
- Problems associated with public speaking
- Myths about public speaking
- Dealing with problem areas

### LESSON 2: Building Essential Skills

- The different verbal skills needed for public speaking
- How nonverbal communication skills affect public speaking and how to work on them
- The importance of listening and technological skills

### LESSON 3: Resources for Public Speaking

- Preparing an effective speech
- Effective use of different visual aids and media as presentation aids

### LESSON 4: Public Speaking in Schools

- Understanding different public speaking contexts for an educator:
  - Classroom teaching
  - Parent Teacher Association (PTA) meetings
  - Parent teacher conferences
  - Conferences and conventions for teachers
  - Board meetings
  - Inter-school competitive events
- Key factors that could influence the preparation and delivery of a speech, presentation or class and considerations to keep in mind for the same
- Ethical public speaking



5 Hours  
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# Reading Across the Curriculum



## 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.

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 CARI 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



5 Hours  
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# Reading through Technology in the Classroom



## Standards:

This course aligns to the INTASC Standards including Learner Development, Learning Environments, Content Knowledge, 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.

Reading is an essential skill that is central to education. In today's classroom, students use and access information from a variety of sources, not just books. The skills of evaluating content, collaboration and peer-review become an important part of reading.

Full of activities, strategies, and templates, this course introduces creative strategies for reading instruction that incorporate technology. Teachers discover devices and techniques which can be used to enhance reading in the classroom.



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# Reading through Technology in the Classroom

## Course Outline

### LESSON 1: Introduction

- Introducing technology in the classroom
- Technology tools
- Interactive whiteboards and clickers
- Mobile devices and computers
- Bring your own device (BYOD)
- Important terms: backups and ergonomics

### LESSON 2: Digital Reading Technologies

- Reading on an e-book
- E-book reader explained
- E-book reader technologies
- Tablet based e-book readers
- App based e-book readers
- Finding e-books
- Reading on the Internet
- Using digital libraries
- Virtual book clubs

### LESSON 3: Technology Supported Reading

- Pre-reading strategies
- During reading strategies
- After reading strategies

### LESSON 4: Collaborative Reading Through Technology

- Collaborative reading using technology
- Tools for collaborative reading
- Collaborative reading strategies
- Collaborative activities



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



## 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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Quiz

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

## Course Outline

### LESSON 1: Introduction

- 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



5 Hours  
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# Reflective Teaching Practice



## Standards:

This course aligns to the INTASC Standards including Learning Environments and Planning for Instruction.

It also aligns to the McRel Teacher Evaluation Standard, Teacher Leadership.

Have you wondered if your teaching strategies are appropriate for your class and reviewed the results?

Developing a process of reflective thinking is a viable solution to this problem. Reflective practice is considered to be central to effective teacher preparation programs and the development of professional competence. A truly reflective teacher becomes sensitive and responsive to the needs, issues, and concerns that are so important in shaping qualitative educational practice.

This course helps educators learn about various reflection and professional development practices that will enable you to become a reflective teacher and grow as an educational professional.



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# Reflective Teaching Practice

## 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



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# Research-based 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 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



5 Hours  
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# Standards-based Instruction through STEM



## 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.

STEM integration doesn't need a huge budget, lots of technology, or a ready-to-use curriculum. It's something any teacher, any school, and any classroom can integrate.

No one knows your students better than you. That's why this course is designed to equip and encourage you to integrate STEM education into your classrooms in ways that you think are most suitable for your students. You will learn how to plan your classroom set-up, design your own STEM curriculum, and integrate standards.

STEM education is not just about doing what's "cool." It is essential that students learn how to apply what they learn in real life situations and across different subjects.



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# Standards-based Instruction through STEM

## Course Outline

### LESSON 1: Introduction

- Definition of STEM
- Need for STEM
- Three STEM program attributes and five different STEM program models

### LESSON 2: Setting Up for STEM

- Characteristics of STEM students and teachers
- Understanding STEM in the context of Math and Science
- Integrating STEM into any classroom
- Choosing appropriate STEM material and curriculum

### LESSON 3: STEM Standards and Assessments

- Shared standards that are internationally benchmarked
- Challenges and benefits of successful STEM assessments
- Assessments for elementary, middle, and high school classrooms
- Benefits, opportunities, and challenges of STEM integration

### LESSON 4: Designing STEM PK-12 Curriculum

- Integrating STEM into elementary, middle, and high-school classrooms
- Designing STEM instruction for the year
- Writing individual STEM units using science, math, technology, and literacy standards
- Implementing effective lessons in the classroom



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# Student Portfolios



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

Successfully integrate portfolios to enhance student development and become an essential part of teaching and learning.

The practical tips and suggestions provided in this course will take teachers through the process of implementing portfolios in their classrooms. The resources included show teachers how to capitalize on a student's natural tendency to save work, get them to take a second look, and critically analyze how they can improve future work.

Rich in examples, suggestions, and tips for teachers, this course aims to enhance the teaching and learning experience for students.



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# Student Portfolios

## Course Outline

### LESSON 1: Process and Benefits

- Research on student portfolios
- Portfolio benefits and their contribution to learning
- Characteristics of the portfolio process
- Adding power to portfolios with parents as mentors
- Logistics and management of both paper and digital student portfolios

### LESSON 2: Types of Portfolios

- In-depth analysis of the types of student portfolios
- Primary stages of the process, working and showcasing portfolios
- Examining the role of teachers as 'portfolio advisors'
- Potential challenges of the portfolio process, and practical tips to overcome them

### LESSON 3: Digital Portfolios

- Digital portfolios and their 21st century relevance
- Types of digital portfolios and their practical implementation
- A systems approach to planning an impressive portfolio
- Examining the key aspects of effective implementation of digital portfolios
- Web tools to help students create digital portfolios

### LESSON 4: Portfolio Assessment

- Benefits of portfolio assessment for both students and teachers
- Formative versus summative assessment of student work
- Implementing a scoring system with rubrics, presenting results
- Brief overview of the assessment process, focus, and criterion
- Considerations for portfolio assessment



5 Hours  
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# Suicide Prevention



## 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  
of Learning



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# Tackling Tough Text



## 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.

Reading and comprehension are essential skills required for academic growth and professional excellence in all fields.

Students may come across vocabulary, phrases, and writing styles that they find difficult to read. As students progress to higher grades, they are exposed to non-fiction reading material that is of a higher level of difficulty across all subjects. How can you help your students read and comprehend tough text, developing them into strong readers?

This course includes practical strategies on tackling tough text, with a focus on the Reading Comprehension Checklist. This checklist integrates research-based reading strategies across all subject areas.



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Quiz

# Tackling Tough Text

## Course Outline

### LESSON 1: Comprehension

- The importance of building students' self-efficacy to ensure learning
- The need for appropriate background knowledge and reading strategies
- Strategies for teaching reading comprehension
- Go beyond traditional teaching models toward participatory literary practices
- The Reading Comprehension Checklist

### LESSON 2: The Checklist

- The roadmap to activate students' background knowledge
- Understanding essential steps while working with the checklist, to ensure an internalization of the reading comprehension process
- The value of pre-reading in making stronger readers, and the four steps involved

### LESSON 3: Working with Questions

- Understanding how to label and analyze questions that accompany the text

### LESSON 4a: Time to Read

- Beginning the final part of the checklist; the actual reading of the text
- The process of identifying and underlining five key words in the text
- The recommended sequence of answering questions
- The importance of emphasizing students' self-confidence

### LESSON 4b: Evaluating the Checklist

- The practical aspects and benefits of using the checklist in the classroom
- Using the evaluation in the checklist to identify areas where students need more help
- Understanding the need for tough text levels and the significance of the checklist



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# Technology in the 21st Century Classroom



## 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.

Today's educators know about many digital tools at their disposal. However, using technology in the classroom requires more than just knowing how to use the tools. Teachers need to understand the role of technology in the learning process, and principles to integrate tech in a way that it promotes learning without distracting from the curriculum.

This course teaches concepts and ideas behind using technology in the classroom. It also helps teachers to understand skills that students need to develop in order to use technology in the most effective way.



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# Technology in the 21st Century Classroom

## Course Outline

### LESSON 1: Introduction

- The mindset behind using technology
- How learning environments and education have changed with technology
- Technology standards and essential conditions required for learning to take place while using technology

### LESSON 2: Tool Set

- Classroom tools
- A code of conduct
- The need for parent education and learning to create a permission slip
- Integrating technology into the curriculum

### LESSON 3: Skill Set

- The skill set required to succeed in the 21st century, and how these skills relate to technology
- Technology that teaches students how to create, connect, communicate, collaborate, and think critically
- Digital learning farms
- Roles students can take on while using technology in the classroom, including tutorial designers, official scribes, researchers, collaboration coordinators, contributors to society, and curriculum reviewers

### LESSON 4: Mindset

- Digital literacies
- Literacy including basic literacy, information literacy, media literacy, visual literacy, global literacy and network literacy
- Ethical use of digital media
- Digital footprints



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# Transformative Classroom Management



## 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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# Understanding ADHD



## Standards:

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

Have you ever come across a child who's always on the move? They might have Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). Children with this condition are restless, impulsive, and have a very short attention span.

These energetic students can often disrupt a classroom. This course provides a variety of tips, adaptations, and strategies for teaching students with ADHD and other students who are energetic, hyperactive, or have difficulty paying attention.

You will learn about classroom modifications and adaptations that can help maintain order in the classroom and discover methods for communicating more clearly with special educators and parents.



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# Understanding ADHD

## Course Outline

### LESSON 1: Introduction

- Definition of and challenges of ADHD
- Causes of ADHD
- Strengths of students with ADHD
- Prognosis and treatment of ADHD

### LESSON 2: Core Issues in ADHD

- The ADHD brain and how the changes in the brain cause deficits
- Challenges in ADHD and strategies that may be used to overcome them, especially in the areas of attention, hyperactivity, and impulsivity
- Strategies that are useful in working with students with ADHD including instruction sheets, classroom seating, movement breaks, and rules
- Dealing with anger and addictive behavior in students with ADHD

### LESSON 3: Associated Issues in ADHD

- Issues seen in ADHD, including issues in organization, motivation and social skills
- How teachers may help students to organize their schoolwork and complete it
- How to motivate students with ADHD
- How to support students with ADHD so they can build positive friendships

### LESSON 4: Accommodations

- Classroom accommodations that can help a student with ADHD learn and perform well
- Modified seating and lighting
- How a classroom schedule and organization can support learning
- Adapting homework, visual aids, and assessments in order to help a child with ADHD cope with the curriculum



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# Virtual Field Trips



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

Field trips help students make connections between classroom learning and the world. However, they aren't always practical due to budget constraints, safety concerns, or learning needs.

Virtual field trips are an effective alternative to traditional field trips because of accessibility, ease, and interactivity. They are cost-effective, safe to use, and break down geographical and learning barriers. Virtual field trips work well for all types of classrooms.

In this course, teachers discover innumerable tips and resources to plan, create, and customize virtual trips and cater to their students' needs. Take classroom learning beyond the confines of the classroom.



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# Virtual Field Trips

## Course Outline

### LESSON 1: Introduction

- Characteristics
- Opportunities
- Applicability

### LESSON 2: Virtual Field Trip Resources

- Pre-designed virtual field trips
- Resources to design virtual field trips
- Maximizing learning

### LESSON 3: Planning a Virtual Field Trip

- Considerations
- Types of virtual field trips

### LESSON 4: Conducting a Virtual Field Trip

- Setting the stage and goal
- Student participation and post-virtual field trip follow-up
- Drawing connections and real-world implications
- Reporting and evaluating the virtual field trip



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