

SD Recertification Package (90 Hours)



The SD Recertification Package includes 6 self-study courses (15 hours each) for a total 90 hours of PD.

- Cognitive Development Skills
- Literacy Across the Curriculum
- Pedagogy Essentials
- Raising Academic Achievement
- ELL & ESL Instructional Strategies
- Technology for Student Learning

Cognitive Development Skills



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 all know brain plays a major role in learning, but few are aware of how. In order to help facilitate student performance, it is essential that educators know how the brain is related to the learning process.

The first section focuses on how to identify a child with learning difficulties and help them overcome their challenges. It also provides tips on how to make learning fun, challenging, and different.

The second section explains how different learning styles impact student learning. You will gain knowledge about specific teaching approaches that can be used to reach and teach each learning style.



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Cognitive Development Skills

Course Outline

SECTION A: Developing Cognition Skills

LESSON 1: Introduction

- Definition of cognitive skills and the barriers to successful learning
- Statistics on American students
- Five typical approaches prescribed for learning difficulties

LESSON 2: The Brain and Learning

- The brain structure and the latest techniques and technology in brain research
- Learning about what impacts brain development in a young child

LESSON 3: Testing

- IQ and achievement tests
- The importance of the right test to diagnose learning difficulties
- The connection between cognitive skills and learning
- Learning about several types of testing and how they can be used effectively

LESSON 4: Cognitive Skills

- The 2 parts of learning
- Why cognitive skills are foundational tools
- The various theories of learning
- Attention and memory and how these skills can be developed in students

Cognitive Development Skills

Course Outline

LESSON 5: Learning Styles

- Types of learning styles including visual, auditory, kinesthetic
- Learning styles inventory and its applications
- How learning styles impact teaching strategies and curriculum planning

LESSON 6: General Training Strategies

- Definition and symptoms of autism
- The autism spectrum and primary conditions within this spectrum
- Other similar conditions, including Rett's syndrome and Fragile X syndrome
- Primary management for autism
- Functioning of the brain in autism and the cause for deficits

LESSON 7: Reading Strategies

- Basic and critical reading skills
- Strategies to improve basic and critical skills
- Comprehension strategies
- The steps in reading
- Understanding the various reading approaches

LESSON 8: Special Conditions

- Specific cognitive issues in conditions such as ADHD, Dyslexia, PDD, Autism, and ODD
- Learning strategies for these conditions

Cognitive Development Skills

Course Outline

SECTION B: Accommodating All Learners

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



15 Hours
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Resources & Tools for
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Literacy 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 should be a meaningful activity that is focused on comprehension and understanding. When students struggle with a specific subject matter, the underlying reason is often identified as under developed reading skills. The strategies in this course are imperative for all educators to help their students become proficient readers.

The first section helps teachers understand how to assess reading skills in the classroom and plan instruction accordingly. The second section equips educators to empower their students with confidence when handling tough text. The third section explores reading difficulties while introducing strategies for dealing with these issues and reducing the gap.



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Literacy Across the Curriculum

Course Outline

SECTION A: Reading Across the Curriculum

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

Literacy Across the Curriculum

Course Outline

SECTION B: Tackling Tough Text

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

Literacy Across the Curriculum

Course Outline

SECTION C: Guided Reading

LESSON 1: An Overview

- Integrating guided reading into the classroom curriculum
- The pros and cons of traditional vs guided reading groups
- The foundational principles of guided reading
- Impact of guided reading, and its implementation across grades

LESSON 2: Procedure

- Implement a guided reading program to match individual student needs
- Manzo's 9 Steps to improve reading comprehension
- Strategies to provide differentiated instruction
- Stages of reading and assessing student levels by specific characteristics

LESSON 3: Strategies

- Implementing guided reading by integrating strategies
- Tips for implementing age-appropriate strategies to match student age and intellect
- The scope and implementation of guided reading for ELLs (English Language Learners), CCNs (Complex Communication Needs) and students with special needs
- Understanding the application of guided reading across curriculum
- The challenges faced during guided reading

LESSON 4: Resources and Organization

- Practical tips for effective implementation of the Guided Reading Program
- Managing student behavior
- Learning the key to staying organized
- Assessing the reading level of students
- Using technology effectively for guided reading groups



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Pedagogy Essentials



Standards:

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

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

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

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



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Pedagogy Essentials

Course Outline

SECTION A: Research-based Instructional Strategies

LESSON 1: Introduction

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

LESSON 2: Teacher-focused Approaches and Strategies

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

LESSON 3: Active Learning

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

LESSON 4: Research-Based Strategies for Literacy and Math

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

Pedagogy Essentials

Course Outline

SECTION B: Curriculum Development

LESSON 1: Introduction

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

LESSON 2: Developing a Standard-based Curriculum

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

LESSON 3: Curriculum Integration

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

LESSON 4: Curriculum Evaluation

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

Pedagogy Essentials

Course Outline

SECTION C: Classroom Organization for the 21st Century

LESSON 1: Being an Organized Teacher

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

LESSON 2: Organizing Your Classroom

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

LESSON 3: Ten Tech Tools for Organized Teaching

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

LESSON 4: Classroom Applications

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



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Resources & Tools for
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Raising Academic Achievement



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.

Teachers learn to identify students who are struggling academically and address academic interventions for support.

This course helps teachers gain skills in improving curriculum and implementing inquiry-based learning to increase academic achievement. Teachers learn to adjust existing evaluation practices to create effective and dynamic evaluation methods that assess student work, while ensuring that the educational focus is on teacher and student development.



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Quizzes

Raising Academic Achievement

Course Outline

SECTION A: Raising Academic Achievement through Standards

LESSON 1: Standards and Academic Interventions

- Standards in education
- Differentiating between core instruction, accommodations, modifications, and interventions
- Academic interventions, classroom intervention plans, and understanding warning signals of students at risk

LESSON 2: Response to Intervention

- Response to Intervention (RTI)
- Connecting RTI and the standards
- Essential components of RTI
- Tiered interventions
- Challenges when implementing RTI

LESSON 3: Literacy Interventions

- Importance of literacy skills
- Problems students face in literacy
- Standards in English Language Arts/Literacy
- Academic interventions for struggling readers
- Academic interventions for students struggling with writing skills

LESSON 4: Math Interventions

- Importance of math
- Problems students face
- Standards in math
- RTI and math
- Specific interventions for improving math skills

Raising Academic Achievement

Course Outline

SECTION B: Examining and Evaluating Student Work

LESSON 1: Introduction

- 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

Raising Academic Achievement

Course Outline

SECTION C: Inquiry-based Learning

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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ELL & ESL Instructional Strategies



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

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

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



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ELL & ESL Instructional Strategies

Course Outline

SECTION A: English Language Learners in the Classroom

LESSON 1: Welcoming English Language Learners

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

LESSON 2: Accommodating a New Culture

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

LESSON 3: Collaboration and Connection

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

LESSON 4: Curriculum and Lessons

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

ELL & ESL Instructional Strategies

Course Outline

SECTION B: Language Acquisition

LESSON 1: Introduction

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

LESSON 2: The Acquisition Process

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

LESSON 3: Literacy Skills - Reading

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

LESSON 4: Writing and Dialogue

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

ELL & ESL Instructional Strategies

Course Outline

SECTION C: Spanish for Educators

LESSON 1: Introduction

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

LESSON 2: Greetings

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

LESSON 3: Classroom Environment

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

LESSON 4: Parent Partnerships and Communications

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



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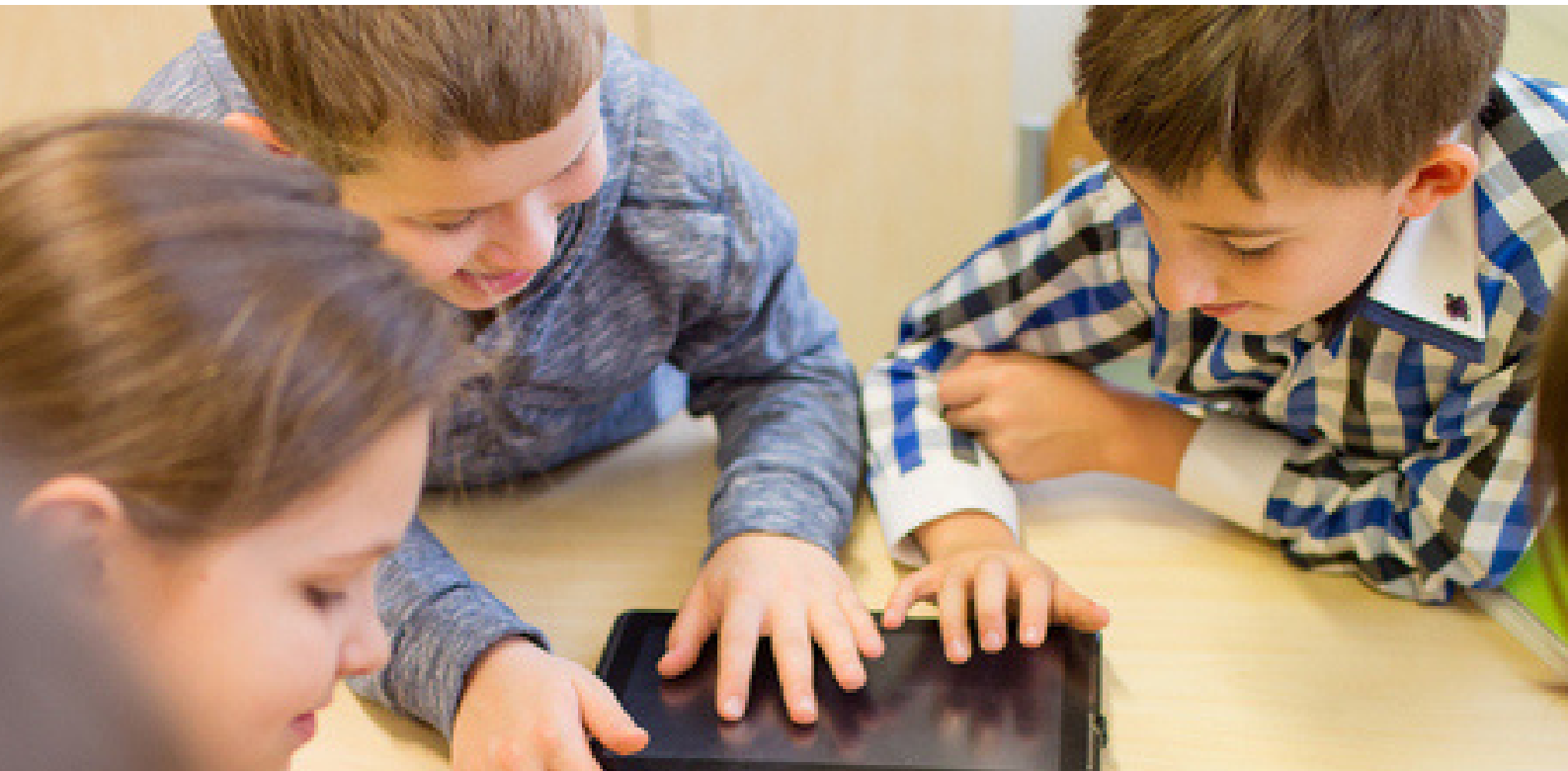


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Resources & Tools for
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Technology for Student Learning



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.

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Learn how to plan and organize technology for smooth and efficient classroom use.

The first section demonstrates how iPads and tablets can be used to order foster the development of 21st century skills.

The second section enables educators to identify apps that promote imagination, experimentation, innovation and collaboration in the classrooms. The third section introduces the concept of flipping classroom instruction.

Upon completion of this course, teachers will be able to integrate current technology educational practices into their own classrooms and curriculum.



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Quizzes

Technology for Student Learning

Course Outline

SECTION A: iPads in the Classroom

LESSON 1: Introduction

- Understanding the role and limitations of iPads in education
- Exploring how iPads can be used to develop essential skills
- Identifying traits of automation, transformation, and pioneering
- Importance of developing a smooth workflow, learning flow, and fluency

LESSON 2: iPads as A Teaching and Learning Tool

- Understanding the importance of integrating iPads into the classroom
- Examining iPads as an effective tool in fulfilling essential teaching functions, from routine tasks, to curating information
- The ability of iPads to promote student learning through differentiation, personalization, and ultimate enhancement of individual learning

LESSON 3: iPads and Basic Classroom Management

- The features, advantages, and challenges of the different types of iPad distribution
- Considerations and importance of creating a classroom management plan to facilitate smooth iPad integration into the learning process
- Creating appropriate class rules, securing students' focus, implementing procedures, setting expectations, and keeping the use of iPad in focus

LESSON 4: Ten 'Must Have' Types of Apps

- Identifying useful apps that support common functions like presentations, screen casting and note taking in the classroom
- Exploring practical ways to integrate apps into lessons

Technology for Student Learning

Course Outline

SECTION B: Apps for Education

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

Technology for Student Learning

Course Outline

SECTION C: Flipping Classrooms

LESSON 1: Understanding the Flipped Classroom

- Flipped classroom: Definition and why “flip?”
- Key elements and benefits to flipping a classroom
- Traditional classroom vs. flipped classroom
- Types of flipped classrooms
- Research and concerns regarding flipped classrooms

LESSON 2: Creating a Flipped Classroom

- How to flip the classroom
- Creating a flipped lesson plan
- Effective lesson planning
- Integration within a flipped classroom

LESSON 3: Tools for the Flipped Classroom

- Creating video content
- The latest technology for creating videos
- Digital tools for flipping
- Tips for effective videos

LESSON 4: Ideas, Tips and Collaboration

- Accommodating all learners and peer instruction
- Collaboration between students, parents, and school
- Flipping faculty meetings
- Flipping across grade levels



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