

VA Relicensure Package #2 (270 Hours)



The VA Relicensure Package #2 includes 54 self-study courses (5 hours each) for a total of 270 hours of professional development.

- Accommodating All Learners
- Accommodations through UDL
- Action Research for School Improvement
- Apps for Education
- Assessment Strategies
- Assistive Communication for Every Classroom
- Building School-wide Initiatives
- Bulletin Boards - Ideas for Every Classroom
- Bullying: Prevention and Policies for Schools
- 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

VA Relicensure Package #2 (270 Hours)

- Differentiation for Gifted Learners in the Classroom
- English Language Learners in the Classroom
- Enhancing Instruction through Standards
- Ethics for Education Professionals
- Examining and Evaluating Student Work
- Flipping Classrooms
- Formative Assessment
- Guided Reading
- IEPs: Documentation and Implementation for Teachers
- Inquiry-based Learning
- Integrating Standards in Teaching
- Internet Safety in a Connected World
- Introduction to Autism
- Introduction to Technology
- iPads in the Classroom
- Language Acquisition
- Mobile Technology in the Classroom
- Partnering with Parents
- Preparing College and Career Ready Students
- Project Management for Students through Project-based Learning
- Raising Academic Achievement through Standards
- 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
- Rubrics in Teaching and Learning
- Standards-based Instruction through STEM
- Student-centered Learning
- Student Portfolio
- Suicide Prevention
- Tackling Tough Text
- Technology in the 21st Century Classroom
- Transformative Classroom Management
- Understanding ADHD
- Videos in the Classroom
- Virtual Field Trips
- Visuals in Learning

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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Quiz

Accommodating All Learners

Course Outline

LESSON 1: Every Learner Learning

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

LESSON 2: Who Are Our Students? Teaching Across Types

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

LESSON 3: Technology

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

LESSON 4: Theories and Strategies

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



5 Hours
of Learning



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Resources & Tools for
Professional Learning Plans

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



5 Hours
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Resources & Tools for
Professional Learning Plans

Action Research for School Improvement



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

Research often conjures up a picture in people's minds of academics working in isolation for years proving theories. To make a distinction from academic research, those involved in action research participate in ongoing testing and monitoring of improvements in their practice. This course provides a framework for teachers to use action research as a means to change or improve their practice.

Another important aspect that the course introduces is intellectual collaboration among teachers. This means working together to identify issues in their teaching context and developing processes for improvement. Action research facilitates the necessary context to help build a strong PLC and can be used either as a school improvement tool or as an individual PD option.



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Quiz

Action Research for School Improvement

Course Outline

LESSON 1: Introduction

- Understanding action research by reviewing key definitions and its history
- What are the key features of action research?
- Identifying the benefits of action research in the context of education
- Exploring the teacher's role in action research
- Considering the various types of action research

LESSON 2: Focus Area

- How to select the right area of focus for the action research project
- Looking at possible focus areas in education

LESSON 3: Key Pre-planning Questions

- Questions to ask yourself before getting started
- Developing the research agenda
- Identifying the project team that will work with you on the project
- Defining the various types of data that are available and data collection techniques
- Explaining how to use a Structured Action Research Model
- Identifying the right sample for your research
- How to analyze data, draw conclusions, and sharing findings

LESSON 4: Data Collection Phases

- How to use an Action Research Matrix as a guide to identify the student learning goal
- The process of collecting data – keeping a checklist in mind
- How to organize & display data in a way that's easy to retrieve and analyze
- Analyzing and interpreting data
- Using the help of professional literature in your research project
- Arriving at short and long-term plans
- A reminder on the ethics of practicing action research



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Resources & Tools for
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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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Quiz

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



5 Hours
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Resources & Tools for
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Assessment Strategies



Standards:

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

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

Assessments are not confined to year end tests and grades. They are meant to be a part of daily teaching and learning. Good assessments are powerful – they may be used to change the way teachers teach, students learn, and sometimes even what is taught.

This course will help teachers design an assessment process that will provide a reliable and valid evaluation of their students. Strategies for assessing Reading and Math skills are explored in detail. Assessments may be seen as an opportunity for teacher professional development. From updating teaching strategies to modifying curriculum to tailoring instruction, assessments may enable both teachers and students to achieve their goals.



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Quiz

Assessment Strategies

Course Outline

LESSON 1: Classroom Assessment Strategies

- Exploring Standards with a brief introduction
- Elaborating on different kinds of assessments including summative and formative assessments
- Connecting learning to the real world beyond classrooms

LESSON 2: The Assessment Process

- Defining and providing information on various assessment related terms, including evaluation and validity; and concepts such as sound assessment design and effective communication
- Explaining the assessment process including writing objectives and analyzing data

LESSON 3: Assessment and Evaluation Strategies

- Detailing assessment strategies regarding Reading: including before and after reading strategies and related concepts
- Analyzing in-depth the strategies relating to Mathematics: including higher order thinking, reflective prompts and self-questioning

LESSON 4: Assessment Challenges and Professional Development

- Exploring the challenges of assessments as opportunities for professional development
- Reiterating the integral part of assessments in education and providing information on available resources



5 Hours
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Resources & Tools for
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Assistive Communication for Every Classroom



Standards:

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

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

Students with disabilities face many communication challenges. Combined with possible physical and cognitive disabilities, learning can be compromised. As teachers, it is important to help students with disabilities overcome difficulties to attain and maximize potential in the classroom.

In this course, teachers are introduced to available assistive communication techniques and tools. Teachers gain an understanding of high-tech and low-tech assistive devices and learn how to incorporate them into a classroom. The tools, strategies, and templates provided in this course help teachers create an inclusive classroom and positive learning environment for students with disabilities.



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Quiz

Assistive Communication for Every Classroom

Course Outline

LESSON 1: Introduction

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

LESSON 2: Low-Tech Strategies for Communication

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

LESSON 3: High-Tech Strategies for Communication

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

LESSON 4: Implementing Assistive and Alternative Communication in Classrooms

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



5 Hours
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Resources & Tools for
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Building School-wide Initiatives



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.

All schools want their students to succeed, but they can only make a lasting difference when they focus on specific goals and strategies for change.

This course focuses on using school-wide initiatives to enhance student achievement across the curriculum. Such initiatives target academics, behavior, and any other area that might be lacking. Teachers are equipped to plan and implement such initiatives in an organized, focused, and inclusive way. The resources and strategies here empower them to raise levels of achievement by identifying the gaps, defining focus, creating effective strategies, building an environment that encourages reform, working in tandem with parents and students, and monitoring the desired change.



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Quiz

Building School-wide Initiatives

Course Outline

LESSON 1: Overview of Building School-wide Initiatives

- Meaning and characteristics of School-wide Initiatives
- Benefits of initiating school-wide programs
- Understanding role of teachers
- What can we learn from examples of School-wide Initiatives

LESSON 2: Planning an Effective Initiative

- The key to an effective plan
- Creating a comprehensive plan and getting started
- How to make relevant contribution as teachers
- Engaging colleagues, parents, and students in the initiative

LESSON 3: Implementation of the Initiative

- The process of assessing needs of the school
- Forming strategies and action plan
- Setting eyes on defined goals and timelines
- Monitoring the plan

LESSON 4: Review and Resources

- The need for a thorough review
- Grouping collected information
- Activities that help in evaluation process
- Resources for reference



5 Hours
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Resources & Tools for
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Bulletin Boards - Ideas for Every Classroom



Standards:

This course aligns to the INTASC Standard, Learning Environments.

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

A classroom can seem incomplete without attractive and educative bulletin boards. Have you ever looked at another teacher's bulletin boards and wondered how they managed to make it so interesting?

This course provides a new and fresh direction that helps teachers understand the basic principles of art and design and how to apply these in planning and creating bulletin boards. Included are a number of ideas for interesting, interactive, and educational bulletin boards.

Discover creative and visually effective ideas and get inspired to create your own classroom bulletin board makeover.



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Quiz

Bulletin Boards - Ideas for Every Classroom

Course Outline

LESSON 1: Introduction

- Exploring the purpose, application and skills enhanced by bulletin boards
- Identifying essential characteristics of good bulletin boards
- Considering the three main types of bulletin boards: teacher created, teacher-student created and student created to understand their applications, features and advantages

LESSON 2: Designing Bulletin Boards

- The effective use of art elements in the design of classroom bulletin boards
- Using principles of design to organize elements of a bulletin board for a specific purpose
- Applying the basics of graphic organization to present the content of a bulletin board

LESSON 3: Creating a Bulletin Board

- Planning for the physical aspects and logistics of the board as well as its purpose
- Understanding the process of constructing the background, lettering and adornments for the board
- Ensuring student participation through clear expectations, creating success, promoting teamwork and organization

LESSON 4: Bulletin Board Ideas

- Exploring the applications and features of seasonal boards in celebrating events and reinforcing learning
- Creating boards for classroom management and social skill development to emphasize rules and expectations
- Examining how conceptual boards can be used to effectively teach and reinforce subjects like Math, English, Science and History



5 Hours
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Resources & Tools for
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Bullying: Prevention and Policies for Schools



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.

Bullying is a form of aggressive behavior that can be covert or overt in nature. Teachers must build a school culture where bullying has no place by modeling and fostering healthy social interactions among students.

This course helps teachers develop their understanding of bullying and gives them confidence to respond to and address it.

The practical strategies in this course can be adapted by teachers to meet the specific needs of their individual classrooms. Teachers are empowered to prevent and respond to bullying effectively as part of promoting positive environments in which all students can learn and thrive.



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Quiz

Bullying: Prevention and Policies for Schools

Course Outline

LESSON 1: What is Bullying?

- Defining and understanding bullying behavior
- Differentiating between bullying myths and facts
- Learning about the different types of bullying
- The characteristics and effects of bullying
- Recognizing warning signs of victimization and identifying bullying incidents

LESSON 2: Cyberbullying

- The difference between cyberbullying and traditional bullying
- The different types of cyberbullying and learning how to recognize the signs
- How to prevent and respond to cases of cyberbullying
- School level measures to prevent cyberbullying

LESSON 3: Reporting and Response

- Four phases/levels of reporting a bullying incident
- Anonymous and online reporting of bullying incidents
- Documentation of bullying incidents
- The different bullying intervention methods
- Challenges faced by school administrators while dealing with bullying incidents

LESSON 4: Bullying awareness and prevention

- The key elements, aspects, and challenges of school-wide bullying prevention
- Bullying prevention at the classroom and individual level
- Exploring different bullying awareness activities for elementary, middle, and high school students
- Involving parents in the anti-bullying initiatives of the school



5 Hours
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Resources & Tools for
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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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Quiz

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



5
Hours
of Learning



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Resources & Tools for
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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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Quiz

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



5 Hours
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Resources & Tools for
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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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Quiz

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



5 Hours
of Learning



Convenient Access:
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Resources & Tools for
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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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Quiz

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



5 Hours
of Learning



Convenient Access:
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Resources & Tools for
Professional Learning Plans

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



5 Hours
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Resources & Tools for
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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.



Certificate of
Completion



100% Online



Quiz

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.



5 Hours
of Learning



Convenient Access:
Start Right Away



Resources & Tools for
Professional Learning Plans

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



5 Hours
of Learning



Convenient Access:
Start Right Away



Resources & Tools for
Professional Learning Plans

Differentiation for Gifted 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.

This course examines some of the challenges facing gifted learners and offers easily implemented accommodations and success strategies. By understanding the unique learning needs of children who are considered “gifted,” participants will indirectly meet the individual needs of all learners.

Through this course, educators and parents can make greater sense of gifted and talented education by learning about identification, instruction, and assessment. Teachers will also explore related topics, issues, and resources geared towards our gifted population.



Certificate of
Completion



100% Online



Quiz

Differentiation for Gifted Learners in the Classroom

Course Outline

LESSON 1: Characteristics

- Who gifted learners are
- Types of gifted learners, including academic, linguistic, and artistic learners
- Qualities of gifted learners

LESSON 2: Personal, Social and Cognitive Needs

- The personal, social and intellectual needs of gifted learners
- Differentiation and how it can be implemented, including aspects process and assessment
- Independent learning and curriculum compacting for gifted learners

LESSON 3: Special Populations

- Twice exceptional students and how they require additional support
- Indicators of twice exceptionality and strategies that can be used to teach this special population

LESSON 4: Practical Strategies

- Several practical strategies that can be used while working with gifted learners and special populations
- Pre-assessment in teaching gifted learners
- Strategies such as H.O.T.S, Morning Minute, Learning contracts and tiered instruction



5 Hours
of Learning



Convenient Access:
Start Right Away



Resources & Tools for
Professional Learning Plans

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.



Certificate of
Completion



100% Online



Quiz

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



5 Hours
of Learning



Convenient Access:
Start Right Away



Resources & Tools for
Professional Learning Plans

Enhancing Instruction through Standards



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.

Explore practical ways to integrate the Standards into your classroom instruction and enhance student learning experiences. This course provides an insight into the roles of teachers and students in the implementation of standards by integration of proven strategies like collaborative learning, differentiated instruction, and technology.

This course is filled with resources, ideas, and techniques to test the will and the skills of every school leader and teacher, so that every student receives consistent, high-quality instruction. Teachers are provided with instructional strategies to handle the different forms of negative behavior that surface in the classroom.



Certificate of
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Quiz

Enhancing Instruction through Standards

Course Outline

LESSON 1: Understanding Standards

- Introduction to standards
- Integration of differentiated instruction, in response to student readiness
- Incorporation of the four models of blending learning: rotation model, flex model, a la carte model and enriched virtual model

LESSON 2: School-wide Instructional Changes

- Requirements of the standards for students leaving high school
- Analysis of the literacy components such as reading, writing, speaking & listening, and language
- Making mathematics practical with the collaboration of standards of mathematics
- School-wide steps to implement Standards in mathematics, English, and language arts
- Using extended school days, an extended school year, after-school tutoring, and multi-tiered interventions to meet the rigors of the standards

LESSON 3: Classroom Instructional Strategies

- Classroom instructional strategies that help teachers meet the standards
- Examining techniques to help students interact successfully with new knowledge
- Approaches to hypothesis generation and testing
- Application of classroom understanding to real world problems
- Ways to establish and maintain effective relationships with students

LESSON 4: Standards-based Behavior Management

- Role of teachers as behavior managers, to reinforce class-wide behavioral standards
- Understanding on-task and off-task behaviors
- Application of Response to Intervention (RTI) model
- Classroom management plan that summarizes the important routines, procedures, and consequences
- Ideas and techniques to make learning an ongoing, dynamic, and enjoyable process



5 Hours
of Learning



Convenient Access:
Start Right Away



Resources & Tools for
Professional Learning Plans

Ethics for Education Professionals



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 and Teachers Know Content.

It's easy for boundaries to become blurred. Things that previously may have been black and white are now gray. Where do we draw the lines?

Even though most people believe that their actions are guided by logic and reason, we all have an innate ethical sense that urges us to make predictable choices. Ethics education is about recognizing our own innate ethical sense and how it influences our behavior.

By stepping inside this course and through reflection and introspection, you'll discover a clearer understanding of the innate ethical self. You'll find tools and tips for bringing high standards of ethics into school and a variety of topics to explore practical ways of addressing ethical decisions.



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Completion



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Quiz

Ethics for Education Professionals

Course Outline

LESSON 1: Ethics in School

- Examining morals, ethics, and laws while understanding subtle differences between them
- Insight on schools of thought and ethical models
- Professionalism and how it applies to teachers
- Reviewing basic ethical practices

LESSON 2: Ethical Boundaries

- Types of boundaries and establishing boundaries through communication, both verbal and non-verbal
- Transference
- Insight on challenging ethical issues, including excessive thinking, jealousy, and inappropriate relationships, as well as how these may be avoided

LESSON 3: Ethical Behaviors

- Professional habits, including the infusion of modesty, fidelity, and civility
- Understanding appropriate behavior, including touch and conversation
- Practical strategies that can be used to maintain positive professional relationships with students, colleagues, and parents
- Virtues and traits that are the cornerstone for every professional teacher

LESSON 4: Ethics in Practice

- A framework for making ethical decisions in the context of the classroom and school
- Strategies to promote school-wide ethical practice, including mentoring, PD, ethical committee, ethical code of conduct, and an honor code.



5 Hours
of Learning



Convenient Access:
Start Right Away



Resources & Tools for
Professional Learning Plans

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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Completion



100% Online



Quiz

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



5 Hours
of Learning

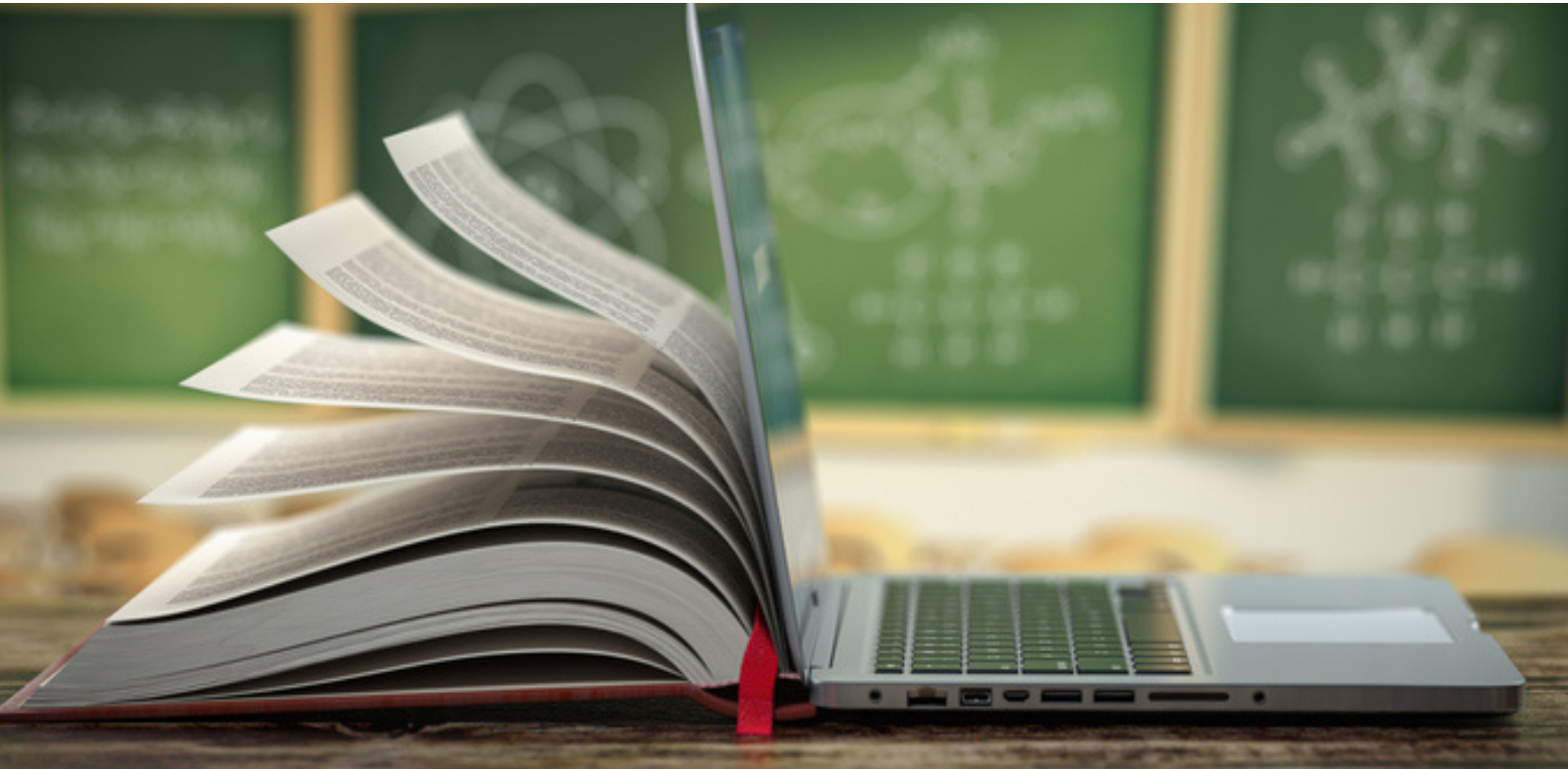


Convenient Access:
Start Right Away



Resources & Tools for
Professional Learning Plans

Flipping Classrooms



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.

"Flipping" the classroom liberates classroom instruction from traditional patterns. The goal is to move students beyond becoming 'proficient' in a subject to 'mastering' its intricacies. Explore making students' learning needs the driving force behind classroom instruction. Identify effective tools and strategies, such as video, digital simulations, and computer games to personalize lessons.

This approach empowers student ownership over their learning and promotes the classroom as a collaborative educational environment.



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Completion



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Quiz

Flipping Classrooms

Course Outline

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



5 Hours
of Learning



Convenient Access:
Start Right Away



Resources & Tools for
Professional Learning Plans

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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Completion



100% Online



Quiz

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



5 Hours
of Learning



Convenient Access:
Start Right Away



Resources & Tools for
Professional Learning Plans

Guided Reading



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.

Guided reading is an instructional approach that creates independent readers and thinkers through strategies that can ensure success, such as selecting appropriate text, reflecting, recapping, self-monitoring, analyzing the text, involving parents, and more.

In this course, teachers will learn how to implement a guided reading program, adapting it to the needs of various kinds of learners and across different subjects, such as math, science and history.

Teachers are provided with resources and activities to engage students, as well as tips and management strategies to best use space, resources, materials, and technology in a manner that students are propelled to greater proficiency.



Certificate of
Completion



100% Online



Quiz

Guided Reading

Course Outline

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



5
Hours
of Learning



Convenient Access:
Start Right Away



Resources & Tools for
Professional Learning Plans

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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Completion



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Quiz

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



5 Hours
of Learning



Convenient Access:
Start Right Away



Resources & Tools for
Professional Learning Plans

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.



Certificate of
Completion



100% Online



Quiz

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
of Learning

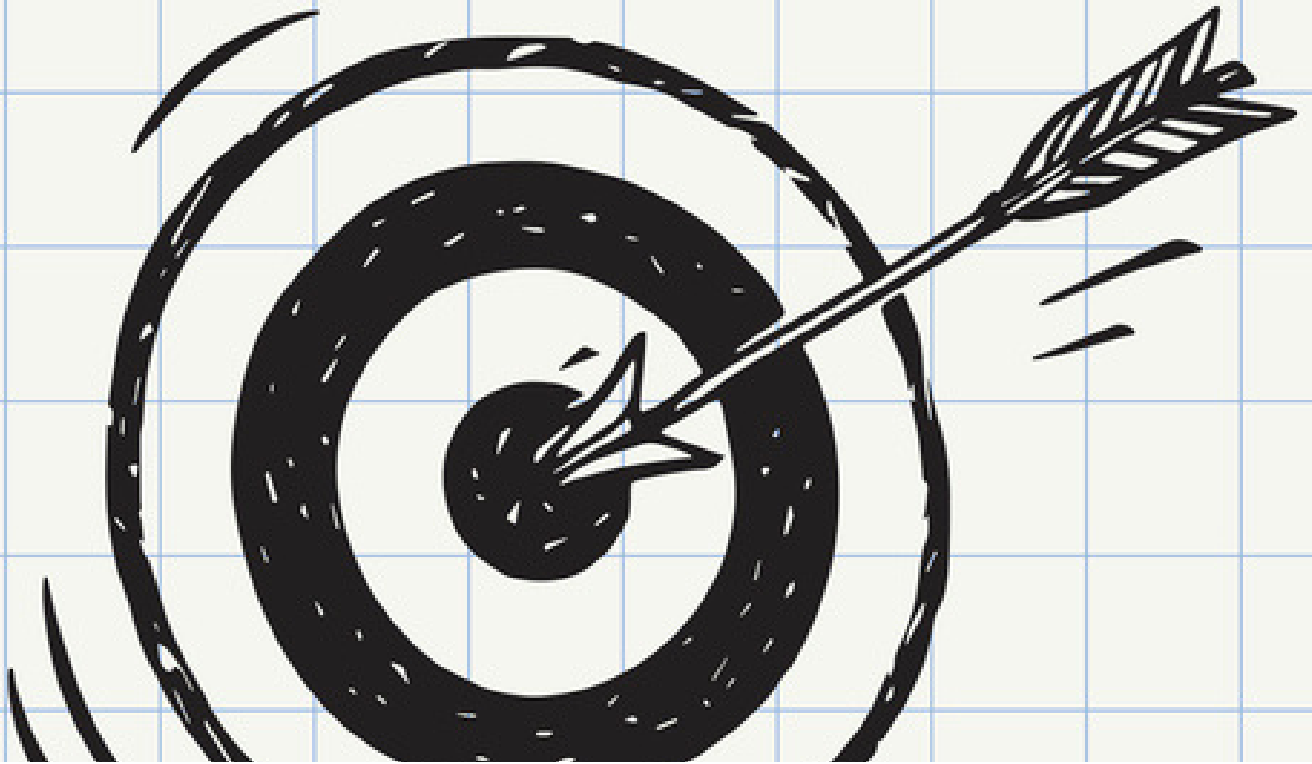


Convenient Access:
Start Right Away



Resources & Tools for
Professional Learning Plans

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.



Certificate of
Completion



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Quiz

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



5 Hours
of Learning



Convenient Access:
Start Right Away



Resources & Tools for
Professional Learning Plans

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....



Certificate of
Completion



100% Online



Quiz

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



5 Hours
of Learning



Convenient Access:
Start Right Away



Resources & Tools for
Professional Learning Plans

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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Completion



100% Online



Quiz

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



5 Hours
of Learning



Convenient Access:
Start Right Away



Resources & Tools for
Professional Learning Plans

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.



Certificate of
Completion



100% Online



Quiz

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



5 Hours
of Learning



Convenient Access:
Start Right Away



Resources & Tools for
Professional Learning Plans

iPads 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.

This introductory tech course explores different ways the iPad can be integrated into the learning process.

In addition to practical learning activities and ideas, this course helps teachers:

- Find and use teaching apps
- Organize iPad activities in the classroom
- Set up the classroom environment to encourage efficient iPad use
- Manage iPad maintenance
- Use iPads to teach and practice skills, including communicating, collaborating, connecting, creating, and critical thinking



Certificate of
Completion



100% Online



Quiz

iPads in the Classroom

Course Outline

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



5 Hours
of Learning



Convenient Access:
Start Right Away



Resources & Tools for
Professional Learning Plans

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.



Certificate of
Completion



100% Online



Quiz

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)



5
Hours
of Learning



Convenient Access:
Start Right Away



Resources & Tools for
Professional Learning Plans

Mobile Technology in the Classroom



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.

Introducing mobile technology in the classroom is not a technological initiative, but rather an educational endeavor to help students learn. Teachers can integrate smartphones, tablets, iPads, Kindles and more into everyday classroom activities while achieving learning targets. Cell phones don't need to be a distraction!

In this course, teachers learn how to create technology-based lesson plans, activities, and assessments that incorporate mobile devices. Mobile technology enables collaboration and shared learning beyond traditional methods, helping students become stronger communicators. Teachers will also learn to consider challenges and create safe practices for student security and safety.



Certificate of
Completion



100% Online



Quiz

Mobile Technology in the Classroom

Course Outline

LESSON 1: Learning with Mobile Devices

- Looking into the essential elements of mobile learning
- Considering the technological infrastructure requirements
- Understanding the SAMR model to mobile learning

LESSON 2: Mobile Learning Implementation Policies

- Creating policies for implementation of mobile learning
- Discussion of policies related to network accessibility, security, devices, and PD
- Analysis of the types of mobile learning programs in schools

LESSON 3: Smartphones and Tablets in the Classroom

- Getting students started with mobile technology in the classroom
- Introducing mobile devices in the classroom
- Using the different apps available with practical ideas for implementation

LESSON 4: Other Mobile Technology

- Motivating students from different backgrounds and with different disadvantages to enjoy reading using e-readers
- A discussion about how to derive the maximum benefits from portable media devices
- Ensuring students get a feel of the reality of what they study by introducing the concept of virtual reality through mobile devices



5 Hours
of Learning



Convenient Access:
Start Right Away



Resources & Tools for
Professional Learning Plans

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.



Certificate of
Completion



100% Online



Quiz

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
of Learning



Convenient Access:
Start Right Away



Resources & Tools for
Professional Learning Plans

Preparing College and Career Ready Students



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 and Teachers Know Content.

Prepare your students for a successful college and career using a range of research-based readiness strategies. Most students aspire to go to college and make a successful career, but few know what it takes to reach their goal.

The tools, templates, and creative ideas in this course will provide the research-based support needed at every critical stage to make all the difference for success. The course will also discuss specific strategies teachers can implement to make student readiness for college and career even more meaningful and effective.



Certificate of
Completion



100% Online



Quiz

Preparing College and Career Ready Students

Course Outline

LESSON 1: Need for College and Career Readiness

- Equipping students with the different facets of college education
- Importance of the 4 Cs: critical thinking, collaboration, communication and creativity
- Understanding technology competence
- Evaluating students for academic and technical skills

LESSON 2: Planning for College and Career Readiness

- Research on career and college readiness
- Empowering teachers with the four keys: cognitive strategies, content knowledge, learning skills and techniques, transition knowledge, and skills
- Developing the skills of entrepreneurship
- Igniting and curiosity and imagination of students

LESSON 3: Principles of Implementing CCR

- Integrating essential principles and classroom aspects
- Principles and practical strategies to prepare students for the real world
- Importance of college readiness
- Incorporating hands-on experience activities to gain an in-depth insight into actual workplaces

LESSON 4: Enhancing College and Career Resources

- Execution of the principles of Career and Technical Education (CTE)
- Implementation of Social and Emotional Learning (SEL), supported by SAFE STEM programs
- Career counselling
- Partnering with employers to indulge students in work related activities



5 Hours
of Learning



Convenient Access:
Start Right Away



Resources & Tools for
Professional Learning Plans

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.



Certificate of
Completion



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Quiz

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
of Learning



Convenient Access:
Start Right Away



Resources & Tools for
Professional Learning Plans

Raising Academic Achievement through Standards



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.

In the past, students who were failing were often sent for special education services whether or not they really needed it. However, the education system today aims to help all students succeed in the general educational setting. In such a setting, teachers play a critical role in identifying those who are struggling to learn and succeed in academics and intervening with help.

This course provides educators with information about academic interventions that can be incorporated in the classroom through frameworks — such as the RTI — or even in the absence of such structures.



Certificate of
Completion



100% Online



Quiz

Raising Academic Achievement through Standards

Course Outline

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



5 Hours
of Learning



Convenient Access:
Start Right Away



Resources & Tools for
Professional Learning Plans

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.



Certificate of
Completion



100% Online



Quiz

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
of Learning



Convenient Access:
Start Right Away



Resources & Tools for
Professional Learning Plans

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.



Certificate of
Completion



100% Online



Quiz

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



5 Hours
of Learning



Convenient Access:
Start Right Away



Resources & Tools for
Professional Learning Plans

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.



Certificate of
Completion



100% Online



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
of Learning



Convenient Access:
Start Right Away



Resources & Tools for
Professional Learning Plans

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.



Certificate of
Completion



100% Online



Quiz

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



5 Hours
of Learning



Convenient Access:
Start Right Away



Resources & Tools for
Professional Learning Plans

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.



Certificate of
Completion



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Quiz

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
of Learning



Convenient Access:
Start Right Away



Resources & Tools for
Professional Learning Plans

Rubrics in Teaching and Learning



Standards:

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

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

A rubric is more than an assessment.

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

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



Certificate of
Completion



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Quiz

Rubrics in Teaching and Learning

Course Outline

LESSON 1: Introduction

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

LESSON 2: Design and Implementation

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

LESSON 3: Rubrics in Instruction

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

LESSON 4: Rubrics in Assessment

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



5 Hours
of Learning



Convenient Access:
Start Right Away



Resources & Tools for
Professional Learning Plans

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.



Certificate of
Completion



100% Online



Quiz

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



5 Hours
of Learning



Convenient Access:
Start Right Away



Resources & Tools for
Professional Learning Plans

Student-centered 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.

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

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

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



Certificate of Completion



100% Online



Quiz

Student-centered Learning

Course Outline

LESSON 1: Introduction

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

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

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

LESSON 3: SCL Strategies for the Classroom

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

LESSON 4: Setting up for Success

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



5 Hours
of Learning



Convenient Access:
Start Right Away



Resources & Tools for
Professional Learning Plans

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.



Certificate of
Completion



100% Online



Quiz

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
of Learning



Convenient Access:
Start Right Away



Resources & Tools for
Professional Learning Plans

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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Completion



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Quiz

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



Convenient Access:
Start Right Away



Resources & Tools for
Professional Learning Plans

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.



Certificate of
Completion



100% Online



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



5 Hours
of Learning



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Resources & Tools for
Professional Learning Plans

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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Quiz

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



5 Hours
of Learning



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Resources & Tools for
Professional Learning Plans

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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Quiz

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



5 Hours
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Resources & Tools for
Professional Learning Plans

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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Quiz

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



5 Hours
of Learning

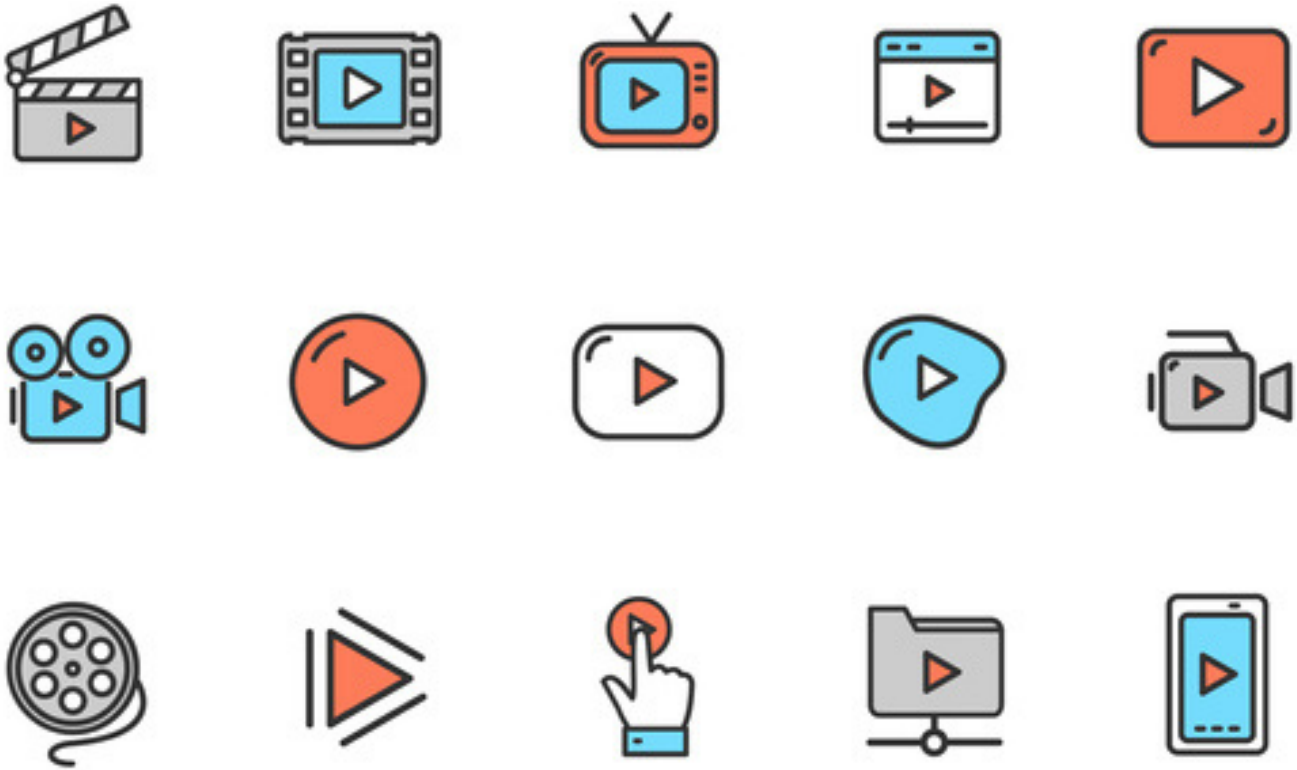


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Resources & Tools for
Professional Learning Plans

Videos in the Classroom



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.

Every teacher wants students to be enthusiastic about learning but sometimes it's challenging to capture interest when the topic is difficult to understand. Videos can do wonders to pique students' interest and engagement. Students retain information faster, grasp concepts more rapidly, and become more enthusiastic about learning when videos are used in the classroom. Teachers are encouraged to use videos already available online and learn to record, edit, create, embed and share videos.

This course presents guidelines and practical tips on choosing videos that align with learning objectives. With templates and examples, teachers find it easy to connect complex lessons to real-life scenarios.



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Quiz

Videos in the Classroom

Course Outline

LESSON 1: Role of Videos in Education

- Research regarding role of videos in education
- Theoretical basis for introducing videos
- Impact of videos
- The elements, process, and implications of a Flipped Classroom
- Teaching approaches and how they incorporate videos

LESSON 2: Effective Use of Available Videos

- Types of videos
- Finding the appropriate video
- Video resources on the internet
- YouTube

LESSON 3: Creating Videos

- Teacher-created videos and their benefits
- Storyboarding
- Screencasting and camera recording
- Editing, uploading, and sharing videos
- Embedding videos
- Student-created videos and their benefits

LESSON 4: Considerations for Classroom Use

- Different ways of using videos in the classroom
- Considerations for video presentation
- Presenting effective video content
- Guidelines for choosing content
- Post-viewing activities for elementary, middle, and high schools
- Teacher reflection and effective feedback
- Copyright considerations



5 Hours
of Learning



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Resources & Tools for
Professional Learning Plans

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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Quiz

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



5 Hours
of Learning



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Resources & Tools for
Professional Learning Plans

Visuals in Learning



Standards:

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

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

"A picture is worth a thousand words."

Understanding and using visual materials is an important life skill for all students. Schools must teach students how to decipher, as well as create, visuals.

Visual tools make useful teaching aids in the classroom, whether they are technology-rich or technology-free. Examples in this course help teachers learn how to incorporate visual instruction into lessons and prepare and present visual teaching aids and assessments for all students.



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Quiz

Visuals in Learning

Course Outline

LESSON 1: Visual Learning and Visual Literacy

- Theory of multiple intelligences
- Visual learners: characteristics and challenges
- Visual literacy: importance, teaching, and competency standards

LESSON 2: Non-Tech Visual Aids

- Effective visual aids
- Types of visual aids
- Classroom examples

LESSON 3: Technology-related Visual Aids

- Preparing and use visual aids
- Improving the effectiveness of presentations
- Teaching students to produce technology-based visual aids

LESSON 4: Visual Literacy and Learning Strategies

- Visual learning strategies to think, analyze, remember, and recall information effectively
- Visual literacy strategies to translate text into images, and vice versa
- Assessment strategies



5 Hours
of Learning



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Resources & Tools for
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