

EducationalImpact



Online Courses for Continuing Education

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Introducing EI's customized online courses featuring video of today's leading educational experts combined with powerful real classroom examples, discussion boards and reflective writing assignments .all specifically designed for educators and aligned to the Texas Teacher Evaluation and Support Rubric.

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Learner Dashboard		Program Library	Course Assignments	PLP
Current Assignments		Archived Assignments		
You are enrolled in the course below. Click on the title of the first assignment below to start.				
Current Course		Working with Struggling Readers		
COMPLETE	ASSIGNMENT TYPE	TITLE	EST. TIME min:sec	
✓	Overview	YOUR COURSE ASSIGNMENTS		
✓	Instructor Journal	Getting Started with reading intervention	10:00	
✓	Overview	UNIT 1: READING INSIGHTS		
✓	General	The critical importance of literacy	15:00	
✓	General	What are the central literacy components?	10:00	
✓	Discussion Board	Is 'Reading an Unnatural Act'?	25:00	
✓	Overview	UNIT 2: READING DIFFICULTIES		
✓	General	10 Common Reading Difficulties	20:00	
✓	EI Video Assignment	STEPS - Monitoring reading fluency	23:45	
✓	EI Video Assignment	Panel Discussion: Working with Struggling Readers	39:40	
✓	Discussion Board	Debrief: What was your favorite insight/strategy from the panel?	15:00	

1.1 Standards and Alignment



Course: 1.1 - Standards Based Instruction: From Theory to Practice

Estimated Completion Time: 4.5 Hours

Course Overview:

When we hear standards, we hear standardization. We automatically seem to think of testing. What do standards do? Do they improve instruction or remove creativity? How do we use standards to drive instruction? Throughout this course, you will be challenged to think about standards in a new way. Consider the importance of using power standards and the need for a paradigm shift.

1.2 Data and Assessment



Course: 1.2 – Analyzing Data

Estimated Completion Time: 6 Hours

Course Overview:

Using data is no longer an option for teachers and administrators. Today, the amount and types of data collected by school systems is larger than ever. But, what do we do with all of this information?..... And more importantly, how will it help us improve student achievement? This course will help you make sense of it all.



Course: 1.2 Learning Goals and Success Criteria

Estimated Completion Time: 6 Hours

Course Overview:

In this course, you will learn about the key elements of instructional outcomes and how to organize lessons and units around big ideas and essential understandings. You will also investigate how to involve students in the process so they know what successful learning looks like. By co-constructing success criteria with students, teachers can incorporate “assessment as learning” activities.



Course: 1.2 Literacy Stages and Assessment

Estimated Completion Time: 3 Hours

Course Overview:

Separating oral language, reading and writing is almost impossible because they work together and in part, develop together. As students pass through the stages of literacy, the elements in a literacy program should adapt and change to complement student growth. In this course, you will learn the basics of literacy development and the balanced literacy diet. Explore assessment and progress monitoring with an emphasis on oral reading fluency.

1.3 Knowledge of Students



Course: 1.3 – Understanding Your Students

Estimated Completion Time: 6 Hours

Course Overview:

Your students are unique in their interests, needs, skills and learning styles. In order to differentiate instruction and truly create a student-centered learning environment, it is imperative that teachers really know their students. In this course, you will explore learning styles, multiple intelligences, interest inventories and class profiles. Most importantly, you will be challenged to think about your own classroom as you complete activities that will help you gather knowledge about your own students.



Course: 1.3 - Connecting to Students' Learning Styles

Estimated Completion Time: 5.5 Hours

Course Overview:

In order to differentiate instruction and truly create a student-centered learning environment, it is imperative that teachers really know their students. In this course, you will explore learning styles and multiple intelligences. Most importantly, you will be challenged to think about the big picture and what it means for you, the teacher, as you strive to prepare your students for success in the 21st Century.

1.4 Activities



Course: 1.4 - Instructional Planning in Real Classrooms

Estimated Completion Time: 6.5 hours

Course Overview:

This course will provide learners with instructional planning techniques based on the findings of leading researchers like Charlotte Danielson, Bob Marzano and Jay McTighe. The results of instructional planning will be seen in real classrooms. Gain practical instructional planning tools and templates to facilitate actual classroom implementation.



Course: 1.4 - Raise the Rigor with Higher Level Thinking Skills

Estimated Completion Time: 5.5 Hours

Course Overview:

Learning theories remind us that the person who is doing the thinking is the person doing the learning. Are your students truly engaged in challenging activities that require them to think, evaluate, justify and synthesize? This course includes classroom examples, ideas for questioning, a review of Bloom's Taxonomy and a compare/contrast strategy that can be adapted for every grade level.



Course: 1.4 - Active Learning Series

Choose the course appropriate for your grade level

Elementary

Estimated Completion Time: 6.5 Hours

Intermediate

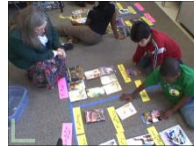
Estimated Completion Time: 6 Hours

Secondary

Estimated Completion Time: 6 Hours

Course Overview:

We know that students retain about 10% of what they read, 20% of what they hear and 90% of what they do. Research shows that students learn more when they are engaged in active learning. In this course, you will learn some quick strategies for increasing the level of activity in your lessons and gain insight into the important elements of an active learning classroom.



Course: 1.4 - Project Based Learning

Estimated Completion Time: 6 Hours

Course Overview:

Project based learning allows students to take charge of their learning and discover the answers to essential questions. This course will show you the step-by-step process for laying the groundwork for implementing PBL in your classroom. You will learn how to promote student engagement through the use of PBL and see PBL in action.



Course: 1.4 - Backwards Teaching – Using 3 Part Lessons in Math

Estimated Completion Time: 3.5 Hours

Course Overview:

In this practical course, learn how to engage your students in math by incorporating Activation, Problem-Solving and Consolidation. Teachers act as facilitators by allowing students to share solutions to make connections between their own ideas and the ideas of others. This course explains each phase and provides examples, strategies and tips for implementing this lesson template into your math classroom.



Course: 1.4 - Creating a Student-Centered Learning Environment

Estimated Completion Time: 6 Hours

Course Overview:

In this course, you will learn what it means to have a student centered learning environment. Key elements are establishing a culture for learning, getting to know your students, providing choices, creating active learning activities and structuring student-centered projects.

2.1 Achieving Expectations



Course: 2.1 - Setting High Expectations in the Classroom

Estimated Completion Time: 3.5 Hours

Course Overview:

Teachers' expectations affect their moment-to-moment interactions with the children they teach in so many ways. Studies have shown that teachers give the students who they expect to succeed more time to answer questions, more specific feedback and more approval. They consistently touch, nod and smile at those kids more. Are you aware of your own tendencies? This course will challenge you to be aware of your differential expectations and prepare you to establish a culture for learning that creates success for all.



Course: 2.1 - Making Learning Relevant with Real World Connections

Estimated Completion Time: 5.5 Hours

Course Overview:

Students are different today. We no longer need to prepare them for a job in industrial times. Today, we need to equip students with 21st Century skills so they can be successful in a rapidly changing world. This course will help you gain insight into the paradigm shift that is happening today and the need to make learning relevant. Real world connections will help your students apply what they are learning and make learning more meaningful.



Course: 2.1 - Assessment for Learning

Estimated Completion Time: 5.5 Hours

Course Overview:

This course will deepen your understanding of formative assessments, demonstrate various ways to quickly check for comprehension and explain how to involve students in self-assessing. You will be empowered to take corrective steps in the learning process by using assessments for learning. You will also be guided through the process of selecting the right assessment for each situation.

2.2 Content Knowledge and Expertise



Course: 2.2 - Student Engagement Series

Choose the course appropriate for your grade level

Elementary

Estimated Completion Time: 5 Hours

Intermediate

Estimated Completion Time: 6 Hours

Secondary

Estimated Completion Time: 5 Hours

Course Overview:

Student engagement is not the same as student participation! Busy students are not necessarily engaged cognitively. This course is designed to provide you with an overview of research based instructional practice that supports engaging students in learning. Explore new critical thinking activities and high level questioning strategies through this practical course filled with real classroom examples specific to your grade level.



Course: 2.2 - Teacher Knowledge of Content and Pedagogy

Estimated Completion Time: 3 Hours

Course Overview:

What does "knowledge of content and pedagogy" really mean? Successful teachers have knowledge of their subject matter and an understanding of how best to teach it. Today, pedagogy is undergoing a significant shift as we look for more effective ways to teach 21st century learners. Throughout this course, you will examine your own knowledge of content and pedagogy and be challenged to think differently about the art and science of teaching.

2.3 - Communication



Course: 2.3 - Get Students Talking!

Estimated Completion Time: 3.5 Hours

Course Overview:

Oral language development is often overlooked as many classrooms consist of more teacher talk than student talk. The person who is doing the talking is the person who is doing the thinking! An increased focus on oral language skills will benefit both ELL students and native English speakers. This course will highlight the importance of oral language for literacy, academic vocabulary development and practical language strategies you can implement tomorrow!

2.4 Differentiation



Course: 2.4 - An Introduction to Differentiated Instruction

Estimated Completion Time: 7 Hours

Course Overview:

In this course, you will watch several videos from Differentiated Instruction workshops around the country. Your facilitators will take you through the basics of DI starting with myths, definitions, pre-assessments, grouping strategies and tiered activities.



Course: 2.4 - Strategies for Differentiated Instruction

Estimated Completion Time: 7.5 Hours

Course Overview:

In this course, you will learn specific strategies for differentiating instruction in your classroom. Learn from top educational experts like Dr. Carol Tomlinson, watch a PD workshop delivered by lead teachers and view classroom examples.



Course: 2.4 – Brain Based Instruction

Estimated Completion Time: 3.5 Hours

Course Overview:

What can we learn from brain research that will help our student to think, learn and communicate effectively? In this course, Dr. Marcus Conyers explores metacognition, input, processing and output in a way that makes sense for educators. Practical strategies are provided to help teachers create and implement brain based lesson plans.



Course: 2.4 - Working With Struggling Readers

Estimated Completion Time: 5 Hours

Course Overview:

Many children struggle with reading and the US literacy rate is declining. The facts are startling. This course will help you gain insight into the science of reading, assessment options and strategies to support struggling readers. The ultimate goal is to inspire you to join the movement to ensure that ALL young people receive a world-class education.



Course: 2.4 - Learning Disabilities: From Identification to Intervention

Estimated Completion Time: 6.5 Hours

Course Overview:

Learning disabilities can impact one's ability to read, write, speak, reason and also affect a person's attention, memory, coordination, social skills and emotional maturity. Throughout this course, you will explore the different types of learning disabilities and hear real life accounts from people living with these disorders. You will learn about the power of explicit instruction in learning strategies and the need for direct instruction.



Course: 2.4 – Why Boys? Closing the Literacy Gender Gap

Estimated Completion Time: 5.5 Hours

Course Overview:

All educators share the common goal of providing equitable learning opportunities for every student in the classroom. Providing equitable opportunities for girls is a familiar topic; providing them for boys is a relatively recent issue, but one that is appearing with increasing urgency on education agendas around the world. Why? An increasing volume of evidence indicates that gender is a significant factor in both choice of reading materials and reading achievement for boys and girls. Boys typically score lower than girls on standardized tests in language arts. Boys are more likely than girls to be placed in special education programs. Dropout rates are higher for boys than for girls. This course will explore the issue and provide 7 strategies for engaging boys and increasing reading and writing skills.



Course: 2.4 – Teaching the ESL Learner

Estimated Completion Time: 9 Hours

Course Overview:

There are now over five million ESL learners in our schools today. Meeting the needs of the ESL learner can be a challenge. This course will provide teachers with the tools to assist their ESL learners and will give them strategies to use with all of their students. The course was designed to include real classroom footage and provide strategies and suggestions that teachers can use in their classrooms.



Course: 2.4 - Understanding Autism

Estimated Completion Time: 4 Hours

Course Overview:

Some have different interests, skills and learning styles. Some have special needs. Autism Spectrum Disorder a disorder of neural development characterized by impaired social interaction and verbal and non-verbal communication, and by restricted, repetitive or stereotyped behavior. In this course, you will learn about Autism Spectrum Disorder, Asperger's Disorder, Pervasive Developmental Disorder (PDD-NOS) and Childhood Disintegrative Disorder (CDD).



Course: 2.4 - The ADD/ADHD Student

Estimated Completion Time: 5 Hours

Course Overview:

ADD/ADHD is likely the single-most common learning and behavioral problem for kids. It's also a major problem for adults, resulting in relationship breakups, job failures, and a great deal of underachievement. You will learn the answers to some commonly asked questions, examine the diagnostic process, gain new insight into what it's like to have ADD/ADHD and explore effective teaching strategies that make a difference.



Course: 2.4 - The Inclusion Breakthrough

Estimated Completion Time: 6 Hours

Course Overview:

Teachers will agree that every student is important and deserves the best education possible. However, including all students in regular classrooms has been something that not all teachers are prepared for. Research has shown, that with the right training and support, all students can benefit from an inclusive educational environment. The purpose of this course is to show teachers and paraprofessionals how to make inclusion work.



Course: 2.4 – Teaching the Gifted and Talented (TX)

Estimated Completion Time: 10 Hours

Course Overview:

Studies conducted during the last few decades have demonstrated both the need for and the benefits of gifted education programs. Of special interest are the benefits that occur for ALL children when gifted education strategies are implemented effectively. In this course, you will explore the nature of giftedness and strategies to connect with high ability students.

2.5 - Monitor and Adjust



Course: 2.5 – Adapt! Teacher Flexibility and Responsiveness

Estimated Completion Time: 7.5 hours

Course Overview:

A master teacher demonstrates flexibility in her instruction, can make changes on the fly and is responsive to the diverse needs of learners. In this course, you will examine learning styles and focus on specific strategies for differentiating instruction in your classroom. Learn from top educational experts like Dr. Carol Tomlinson, watch a PD workshop delivered by lead teachers and view classroom examples.



Course: 2.5 - Mastering RTI - A Step by Step Approach

Estimated Completion Time: 6.5 Hours

Course Overview:

Many educators continue to have questions about this comprehensive academic and behavioral intervention process. A step by step approach for implementing RTI that ensures ALL students learn. Explore universal screening, progress monitoring, data-based decisions, scientifically based interventions and the importance of implementing with fidelity.



Course: 2.5 – Effective Intervention Assistance Teams

Estimated Completion Time: 4 Hours

Course Overview:

Two heads are better than one. This adage is never truer than when a student is struggling academically. Understanding the value of education in life, educators have created a process by which they can offer timely and effective intervention to the struggling student. This process is known as "Intervention Assistance Teaming" or IAT. Throughout this course you will learn all there is to know about the IAT model and how it can be used to break the pattern of failure in your school.

3.1 Classroom Environment, Routines and Procedures



Course: 3.1 - Maximizing Instructional Time

Estimated Completion Time: 5.5 Hours

Course Overview:

Have you ever done the math to calculate how many hours in the day your students spend actively engaged in learning? Student achievement is impacted directly by having more hours of good quality teaching. Seems obvious, doesn't it?! In this course, you will consider the importance of streamlining your classroom routines and managing student behavior through practical tips and examples.



Arranging the Classroom Effectively Series

Choose the course appropriate for your grade level

Elementary

Estimated Completion Time: 4 Hours

Intermediate

Estimated Completion Time: 4 Hours

Secondary

Estimated Completion Time: 4 Hours

Course Overview:

Research on the physical classroom environment has shown that the choices you make regarding arrangement can affect the behavior of both students and teachers and that a well-structured classroom improves student academic and behavioral outcomes. This course will get you thinking about your classroom environment and how you have organized your physical space.



Classroom Environment Basics

Estimated Completion Time: 4.5 Hours

Course Overview:

Have you created a classroom environment of respect and rapport with clear procedures and smooth transitions? Learning cannot happen in a chaotic classroom! This course provides an overview of classroom management basics while exploring give key components of an effective classroom environment.

3.2 – Managing Student Behavior



Course: 3.2 - Managing the Defiant Child

Estimated Completion Time: 6 Hours

Course Overview:

Teachers who cannot manage student behavior in their classroom are limited in their overall effectiveness in almost every other area of teaching. In this course, you will learn from Dr. Anthony Scannella, a straight talking educator and psychotherapist. What strategies work well with students who are defiant? Add some new communication strategies to your repertoire and find out if your own personality style clashes with the challenging students in your classroom.

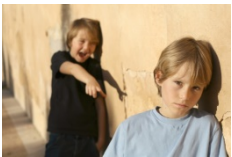


Course: 3.2 - Positive Behavior Supports in Action

Estimated Completion Time: 4 Hours

Course Overview:

When students know how to behave in the classroom, not only will they feel safe, but they will be better able to achieve academic success. Throughout this course you will be introduced to the Positive Behavior Support system for managing student behavior in the classroom. You will learn how to create effective rules, and will learn how a three-tiered system of support can be effective in creating an atmosphere of positive discipline in your school.



Course: 3.2 – Bullying Prevention

Estimated Completion Time: 3 Hours

Course Overview:

Bullying is a serious problem affecting youth in communities all across America, and all adults have a role in helping to stop it. The information in this course will ensure each participant has a better understanding of bullying and is equipped with the tools and resources to take action.

3.3 – Classroom Culture



Course: 3.3 Building Positive Relationships and Classroom Culture Series

Choose the course appropriate for your grade level

Elementary

Estimated Completion Time: 4 Hours

Intermediate

Estimated Completion Time: 4 Hours

Secondary

Estimated Completion Time: 4 Hours

Course Overview:

A culture of mutual respect, care and trust between students and teachers goes a long way in building a classroom of engaged students who take pride in their work. In this course, explore the qualities that characterize effective and caring teachers.

4.1 Professional Demeanor and Ethics



Course: 4.1 Professional Responsibilities of Distinguished Teachers

Estimated Completion Time: 5 Hours

Course Overview:

Every teacher evaluation system includes at least one component about professionalism. Students, parents and administrators maintain very high expectations of their staff. This course will provide teachers with insight into their professional responsibilities. Distinguished teachers are reflective practitioners, effective communicators and active in their professional community. This course provides opportunities for reflection and self assessment.

4.2 Goal Setting



Course: 4.2 Conferencing and Goal Setting

Estimated Completion Time: 3.5 Hours

Course Overview:

Becoming a great teacher requires a constant pursuit of excellence. Teachers who seek out professional development opportunities and feedback from colleagues and supervisors show their commitment to their profession. In this course, Charlotte Danielson describes component 4E and provides insight into how you can leverage pre and post conferences to impact teacher growth and development.

4.3 Professional Practices and PD



Course: 4.3 Reflecting on Teaching

Estimated Completion Time: 2.5 Hours

Course Overview:

Teachers face a myriad of daily choices and decisions that need to be made in the midst of a lesson, student discussion or intervention. Taking time to reflect on these decisions is key to becoming a reflective practitioner. If you believe that all students can learn at a high level and that your performance as a teacher has a direct impact on student learning, than reflection should be an integral part of what you do. In this course, examine questions and principal conferences that ensure you play an active role in your own professional growth.

4.4 School – Community Involvement



Course: 4.4 Leveraging the Power of Teacher Leaders

Estimated Completion Time: 4.5 Hours

Course Overview:

This course is designed to support your growth as a teacher leader in your school. The role of a teacher leader can be initially challenging as you work with new teachers, colleagues and administration. Skills gained in this program will lay a foundation for new leadership skills. By leveraging the power of teacher leaders, you can make a significant impact on school effectiveness and student achievement.



Course: 4.4 Enhancing Learning with Family Involvement

Estimated Completion Time: 4.5 Hours

Course Overview:

Effective parent-teacher communication builds working relationships that can support strong home-school collaboration and improved educational outcomes. Recent changes in school policies and practices like the accountability movement, inclusion and RTI necessitate that all teachers build strong communication practices to keep families in the loop while meeting the needs of a diverse population.



6 C's of Technology Integration

Estimated Completion Time: 5 Hours

Course Overview:

Character, citizenship, communication, critical thinking, collaboration and creativity.....these are the 6 C's of effective technology integration in the classroom. Experts, Michael Fullan and Alan November, will provide insight into the new skills needed for success in the 21st Century. Learn from practical classroom examples.



Improving School Wide Technology Integration

Estimated Completion Time: 4.5 Hours

Course Overview:

Today's students have grown up in a world where the internet, mobile phone, laptop, tablet and social media are commonplace. These "digital natives" are developing new habits, skills and approaches to their own learning. Teachers are adapting their methodologies in order to reach and teach their students. Learn how to create a technology integration plan that really works.



Proven Online Teaching Strategies

Estimated Completion Time: 10 Hours

Course Overview:

Most people, teachers included, have a difficult time imagining how a teacher interacts with his or her students in "cyber space". What does a virtual classroom look like and how does it work? This comprehensive course includes numerous examples of online teachers in action so you can see how they modify traditional instructional strategies to make them work in a virtual environment. Learn how to establish a sense of community and rapport between students who may never actually meet one another. You will also examine three pillars of engagement necessary for successful online instruction and gain insight into the tools and technology you need to create an effective cyber school.



Tech Savvy Classrooms and the 1:1 Initiative

Estimated Completion Time: 3.5 Hours

Course Overview:

When a student's only exposure to a computer is in a lab at the end of the hall, technology can be seen as a fragmented skill unrelated to daily life or a future career. Today, the 1:1 initiative is sweeping the nation as schools strive to put a laptop or mobile device into the hands of each and every student. Just because a technology is available for students doesn't mean it has to be used all the time. In this course, learn about the advantages, some pitfalls to avoid and practical strategies for implementation.



Innovating with Technology

Estimated Completion Time: TBD

Course Overview:

Technology integration is not about the tools....it's about how technology can be used to enhance teaching, learning and leadership. In this course, you will be challenged to think about how you use technology to engage students, foster collaboration, make your work more efficient and build a culture for learning. Examine misuses of technology, common concerns, practical implementation tips and classroom examples of teachers in action. This unique course shows you how to effectively engage students with interactive whiteboards, 1:1 programs, flipped classrooms and 100% online settings.



21st Century Teaching and Learning

Estimated Completion Time: 5 Hours

Course Overview:

Students in the 21st century are estimated to have several career changes in their lifetime. Renowned for their work in school technology, Alan November, Ian Jukes and David Warlick, provide powerful insights to empower you to rethink and retool your curriculum in innovative and exciting ways.



Course: Follow the Journey of 4 First Year Teachers

Estimated Completion Time: 5.5 hours

Course Overview:

Follow the journey of four new teachers as they navigate through their first year of teaching. Observe them in action from September to the end of the school year. They each face different challenges as they set classroom expectations, implement instructional strategies and deal with the difference between their expectations and reality. See how each teacher worked through issues and reflected on their journey with insight from mentors along the way. Learn from their experiences as you observe them dealing with common challenges and anxieties that face many new teachers.



Course: New Teacher Training 1 Classroom Environment

Estimated Completion Time: 4.5 hours

Course Overview:

Establish a positive classroom environment from day one and reduce behavior issues with proactive strategies and streamlined procedures. This course will focus on first year teachers and the components of a positive classroom environment. Learn how to create smooth procedures, classroom expectations and a community of learners. You will also have the unique opportunity to observe videos of a first year teacher working with his mentor as he learns how to create an environment of respect and rapport. This is the first course in a 2 part series for New Teacher Training. We hope you will also register for "New Teacher Training 2: Planning and Instruction" upon successful completion of New Teacher Training 1.



Course: New Teacher Training 2 Planning and Instruction

Estimated Completion Time: 7 hours

Course Overview:

Once you have a solid understanding of the importance of classroom management and feel confident in your ability keep your classroom under control, it's time to focus on the really fun part of teaching - planning and instruction. Here's where new teachers' enthusiasm and energy really come to light and the creativity can be unleashed! This course will focus on the importance of planning in your lessons to maintain student engagement and to ensure your students are gaining the most out of every minute of instructional time. Through taking this course, you will learn about key elements for planning and preparation, classroom strategies to help boost your instruction, common issues faced by first year teachers, and see an example of what it's like to work with a mentor. This course also includes a unit with valuable resources for first year teachers.