



NYS Teacher Center Online Academy Fall, 2009



All classes are 15 hours in length and run from **Oct. 21 to Dec. 9, 2009**
Teacher Center Member Fees: \$125 per course - Non-Teacher Center Member Fees— \$150 per course
Register using **MyLearningPlan** at www.rockteach.org
If you already have a MyLearningPlan.com ID, register at www.mylearningplan.com

Be sure to check the OLA website www.olacatalog.org for course requirements and expectations —BEFORE registering!

Creating Supportive Literacy Environments for English Language Learners

Dr. Eileen Kennedy

The purpose of this course is to explore a range of literacy strategies for teaching English Language Learners and Limited English Proficient students. The course will examine recent legislation, implications, assessment strategies and linguistic diversity. Language proficiency will be studied in all modalities – listening, speaking, reading, writing, viewing and visual representation. The course will go in-depth into important strategies for teaching English Language Learners, including response to intervention, differentiated instruction, flow of instruction, integrated content-based instruction and whole language instruction. Finally the role of parent/cultural outreach, as well as the community, will be covered.

NYS Standards: ELA, ELL

Grade Level : K-12

Geocaching - Teaching Skills for the 21st Century

Ms. Laura Davie

This course takes you from the basics of how to use a GPS (Global Positioning System), to actually going on a Geocache Treasure Hunt—then to how to create your own course curriculum. Geocaching in the classroom gets kids moving, teaches Technology Skills, teaches Job Skills, encourages Project-based learning and can be used for almost any subject. Using a learn-by-doing model, teachers will have completed this course in the role of learners collaborating with other learners to solve problems. This model can then be applied in their own classrooms. Teachers will re-align the activity to their subject's standards and grade level/developmental level of their students.

Requirements: Use of a GPS receiver (use your own or borrow one), use of a computer with internet access, Microsoft Word and Excel **ELA, MST, Grades: K-12**

Grantwriting: Effective Proposal Writing for Educators

Ms Vickie Parker and Sara Zaidspiner-Leibo

This online course provides educators with a basic overview of how to write a proposal. It will examine the components of the standard proposal format as well as provide examples and feedback that will familiarize the writer with successful, narrative techniques. Although each individual grant may pose different requirements, the proposal itself contains the same basic components. The need statement, program design, timeline, budget, assessment, and executive summary will all be explained and exemplars will be evaluated. Each participant should have a class-critiqued, effective proposal completed by the end of the course.

NYS Standards: ALL , Level N-12

Improving Student Performance With Self-Esteem Raising Techniques

Ms. Gayle Smith

This course is designed to help you combine your current teaching strategies with a few different techniques to increase the performance of your students. With accents on how you can use differentiated instruction, brain theory and management styles; we will explore how self-esteem is the key to releasing empowerment, participation and development in students. These fun activities will add the element of change in your classroom that everyone will be excited about.

Standards: ELA, Art -Grade Level: 2-12

An Overview of Autism

Ms. Barbara Tanguay

This course will highlight the fascinating yet devastating features of Autism as seen in children. It will survey current issues in the field of Autistic Spectrum Disorders and review it's background. It will provide information for understanding the complex social, communication, and behavioral issues involved and discuss effective strategies for working with children with Autism.

NYS Learning Standard: ALL, Grade Level K-12

Successful Transition of Elementary Students to Middle School

Ms GayeAnn Brown

Transition from elementary to middle school provides challenges to many students. The purpose of this online course is to enable both elementary and middle school level teachers to help their students successfully and smoothly make the transition. This course is consistent with the NYS Teacher Center Online Academy Standards.

Participants will authenticate their students' learning in accordance to NYS learning standards

NYS Standards: ALL Grade level 4-7

Using Digital Resources to Enhance Reading Comprehension

Ms. Denise Lewis

Have you ever read a book... a short story... a poem and been able to see the characters, know the place, or empathize with the protagonist? Many students haven't had such a memorable reading moment. They'd much rather surf the web, text friends and search for themselves on youtube. To motivate students to read teachers can connect reading with the digital resources students use every day. There is a wealth of Web 2.0 resources to connect kids with books. This course will provide teachers with the knowledge and skills to connect kids with reading through digital media and easy to use Web tools.

NYS Standards: MST, ELA Grade level 2-12

Successful Writing Instruction

Mr. George Lohmann

Your students CAN write . . . if they are taught how! For some it comes naturally, but for most it is hard, often frustrating, work. But don't give up. The hard work won't go away, but much of the frustration that you and your students experience will when you use the **Christensen Rhetoric*** Program. This Online course will present the guiding principles along with teaching strategies that will allow you to become a successful writing instructor no matter what you teach. You will finish the course with lesson plans in hand appropriate for the subject area and grade level you teach. (*OLA Catalog title)

NYS Standard: ELA/ALL

Grade Level 7-12

Volcano Hunt: Using Smartboard Resources

Mr. Jim McAndrew

Participants will complete group projects, readings and discussions that are integrated with Smartboard activities. This course will be an online adventure to several famous volcanoes, using longitude and latitude coordinates, and journaling about the experience. Are YOU ready for an adventure?

NYS Standard: Science Grade Level 5-12

We're All Playing for the Same Team: Winning Strategies for Effective, Collaborative Co-teaching in an Integrated Classroom

Dr. Sheila B. Kohn

Participants in this course will explore common models of co-teaching, and the cornerstones of productive collaboration and teamwork. We will consider what it takes for us as individuals to be successful team members and investigate topics such as: communication and listening, conflict resolution, work-style preferences, tapping into background and experiences, and creating a shared sense of purpose, goals, and responsibility. We will discuss and reflect on the process and value of setting ground rules, skills and methods of effective teamwork, and characteristics of effective feedback. This course is aligned with the National Staff Development Council's (NSDC) Standards for Staff Development that improves the learning for all students, and will assist teachers in helping their students meet the NYS Learning Standards for their grade level(s) and standards areas. *Participants are required to register with a co-teaching partner and collaborate on assignments.

NYS Standards: ALL Grade Level K-12

Notes: All courses require access to the internet and comfort level with email, Microsoft Word and uploading documents. Some require knowledge of other technologies or programs. Teachers are expected to log into and work with the class site at least 3 times each week.

Syllabi, RoadMaps and Course Policies can be found on the NYSTC Online Academy website, www.olacatalog.org, along with the Standards for Online Learning, FAQ's and other useful information.

Registration is done online with payment by credit card or mailed check to Rockland Teachers' Center Institute, 65 Chapel Street, Garnerville, NY 10923. Scholarships may be provided through your Local NYS Teacher Center. Please secure approval from your home district, if you need it, in advance. **After the start of the OLA classes, no refunds may be allowed.**

Please contact Marianne Smith, 845 942-7604, RTCI@optonline.net with further questions.

NYS Online Academy is a program of the NYS Teacher Resource and Computer Training Centers with the support of NYIT and the NYS Education Department