



Community-Based Learning

Course Syllabus

Course Description

This course challenges traditional pedagogical paradigms by immersing teachers in authentic community settings, where learning goes beyond the confines of the classroom. Through a blend of theoretical insights and practical applications, participants will explore the symbiotic relationship between academic learning and real-world experiences. Teachers who understand the fundamentals of community engagement facilitate collaboration and experiential learning, fostering meaningful connections with students and communities. Community-based learning will help educators develop the skills and strategies to cultivate social responsibility in their educational practice.

This course enhances classroom teaching effectiveness and supports improved student outcomes by introducing new knowledge in community-based learning, emphasizing the integration of real-world experiences and community engagement to foster collaboration, relevance, and social responsibility in education.

Course Objectives

At the end of this course you should be able to:

1. Understand the core principles of community-based learning, including the connection between academic learning and real-world experiences, and its impact on teaching practice.
2. Develop the skills necessary to build and maintain strong partnerships with community organizations, ensuring effective collaboration and mutual benefit.
3. Explore the educator's role in community engagement, learning how to facilitate collaboration and enhance the learning experience through meaningful community involvement.
4. Design and implement experiential learning opportunities that encourage active participation and connect classroom learning with real-world issues.
5. Develop strategies to foster social responsibility in students, equipping them to apply their academic learning to contribute positively to their communities.
6. Gain the tools to evaluate and reflect on the effectiveness of community-based learning experiences, ensuring continuous improvement in their teaching practices.
7. Apply established theoretical frameworks to inform their practice, integrating theory and community engagement to enhance learning outcomes.
8. Develop strategies to sustain community connections beyond the classroom, ensuring long-term partnerships that benefit both educators and the community.

Modules

- Module 1: Introduction to Community-Based Learning, Quiz 1
- Module 2: Building Strong Community Partnerships, Quiz 2



- Module 3: The Role of Educators in Community Engagement, Quiz 3
- Module 4: Designing Experiential Learning Opportunities, Quiz 4
- Module 5: Cultivating Social Responsibility and Sustaining Community Partnerships in Education, Quiz 5
- Module 6: Evaluating and Reflecting on Community-Based Learning, Quiz 6
- Module 7: Theoretical Frameworks to Community-Based Practice, Quiz 7
- Module 8: Sustaining Community Connections, Quiz 8

Grading

Each quiz must be passed at an 80% or higher (three attempts allowed).

Format

This is a self-paced, asynchronous (no required live meetings) course. Throughout the PD course, you will find it helpful to take notes along the way to assist with the quizzes. Within each module, you will find reflection assessments that are not graded but will help in your journey through the course. There is an interactive forum in the course to help you connect with peers and instructors, share ideas, and collaborate on best practices throughout your learning journey.