

WITH THE STUDENTS IN YOUR LIFE

Credits Issued by Regionally Accredited Universities and Colleges





Professional Development Designed to Meet Your Needs

CONVENIENT Site-based & Online Available Year-Round

- **PRACTICAL** Topics Relevant to Today's Teachers
- **INTERACTIVE** Collaborative Applied Learning Experience
- AFFORDABLE One Fee Includes All Course Material

CALL FOR DISCOUNTS ON ALL COURSES Full Payment is Not Required to Receive Available Discounts

FOR PRICING, CURRENT SPECIALS & TO ENROLL

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FREE

BOOKS AND MATERIALS ARE INCLUDED IN EVERY COURSE



GRANTING CREDITS IN YOUR REGION

Contact us for information regarding our credit-granting University Partner for your specific region. Our graduate credit courses offer three (3.0) semester graduate credits that can be applied toward teacher certificate/license renewal and salary advancement (subject to district approval).

ABOUT THE CONNECTING LINK

Founded in 1981 by educators for educators, The Connecting Link offers engaging, convenient, and pertinent courses designed to meet the professional development needs of educators and their school districts.

The Connecting Link offers graduate credit courses (subject to district approval) through partnerships with accredited institutions of higher learning. Working closely with these partners, The Connecting Link is committed to the continuous improvement and expansion of innovative, relevant, and engaging classes. Professional development units can be granted through participation in our graduate credit courses (when taken as not-for-credit) where The Connecting Link is an approved provider by that state's educational governance.

Our mission is to provide high quality, graduate-level, continuing education courses designed to help teachers respond to challenges and opportunities facing educators today. Each course is developed in accordance with applicable standards, adult learning principles, and current educational research.

Whether in the classroom or online, The Connecting Link learning experience centers on engaging and relevant activities that help educators work in a community of peers to forge durable links between the latest research and daily practice.



WHAT'S INSIDE



ACADEMIC COURSE DESCRIPTIONS PAGES 4-5

These site-based and online courses are developed and taught by experts in their fields. All of our courses are highly interactive and you will receive personalized feedback from qualified instructors. Our online courses offer flexibility with 24-hour access, instructor guided self-study, relevant instruction and user-friendly materials. Whether you want to advance (or enhance) your career - or expand your knowledge, The Connecting Link's courses meet the needs of aspiring and working professionals. Full course descriptions are available online.



TECHNOLOGY COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

These site-based and online technology courses offer a combination of practical hands-on instruction as well as principles and strategies for the effective use of technology to improve students' learning. All Connecting Link Technology classes are designed to comply with International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) standards adopted by NCATE. Each course syllabus details points of compliance, and technical skills are presented in the context of a best practices framework for creating and evaluating technology-based learning activities. Full course descriptions are available online.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Who are the instructors of our courses?

Our instructors are local educators who hold a master's or doctoral degree and are accomplished in their field. Instructors are carefully screened and regularly evaluated by The Connecting Link staff and students.

How many credits does each course offer?

Participants completing graduate credit courses earn three (3.0) semester graduate credits from our academic partner. Credit is accepted by most school districts for salary advancement and renewal of your teaching license. Always check with your district regarding how credits may be applied.

When will I receive my grade?

The Connecting Link will email a grade letter to you upon receiving your final grade from your instructor. Grades are typically received by email within three weeks of the final class meeting. You may subsequently request transcripts from our academic partner.

How long will it take to receive my transcripts?

You may request official transcripts by sending a transcript request form directly to our academic partner. Depending on the partner, transcript processing time may take up to three weeks. You will receive a transcript request form on your first day of your site-based class. Additional transcript information for online courses is included in your course materials.

How much is tuition?

Course prices can vary by topic and format; therefore, please visit our website or call us for current pricing and to inquire about discounts that may be available.

Are there additional fees?

There are no additional costs for course materials (supplemental participant manuals and textbooks). You will receive your materials on the first day of a site-based course; materials for online courses will be mailed directly to you. Please allow 5-7 business days for delivery of materials for online courses. Official university transcripts may be requested from our academic partners for a nominal fee. We make every effort to schedule courses at facilities with ample free parking, but this is not always possible. We ask that you inquire in advance about the availability of parking at your facility so that you can plan accordingly.

What if I need proof of payment reimbursement?

The Connecting Link automatically emails a receipt for each payment received. If you need an additional receipt, you may call The Connecting Link to request one.

Can these courses transfer into a graduate program?

Please contact your academic advisor prior to enrolling in a course to determine if the course will count toward a degree program.

What if the course I signed up for is cancelled or changed?

The Connecting Link makes every effort to run all courses as scheduled. Occasionally, a course will not have sufficient enrollment to be held. Your registration counts! Please register early. If a course is cancelled, we will notify you approximately two weeks prior to the first day of class. Please note that some circumstances may prevent us from providing two weeks notice. Because The Connecting Link holds satellite courses, the dates, facilities and/or instructors are subject to change. We will notify you of any such changes; however, we recommend that you also visit our website at www.connectinglink.com to verify the course information prior to the first day of class.

When can I log in to my online course?

You may log in at your convenience. The Connecting Link's online course system is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

How long is an online course?

You may start your online course as soon as you receive your materials and all necessary log-in information. Once you log on, you have 12 weeks to complete the course. You must log on within 60 days of your purchase; otherwise, you will be subject to a \$25 reactivation fee.

What if I have special needs?

In compliance with ADA guidelines, The Connecting Link encourages participants with a temporary or permanent condition that might affect their ability to perform in class to inform us when registering. Adaptations of teaching methods, course materials, or testing may be made as needed to provide for equitable participation.

For pricing, current specials, and to enroll, call 888.550.5465 or visit www.connectinglink.com

ACADEMIC COURSES

MORE COURSES AVAILABLE, SEE WEBSITE FOR DETAILS



ALL CLASSES INCLUDE TEXTBOOKS AND COURSE MATERIALS

Facilitating Online Courses™

This course elaborates on the unique role of the online facilitator in a highly interactive, online learning program. Emphasis is placed on developing the online learning community, building the skills to effectively employ online learning strategies, managing the online class, and implementing new or modifying existing curricula.

Fundamentals of School Law for Educators™

All teachers are required to know the law under our system of jurisprudence. This course explores public policy issues and political systems within the context of state and federal law and the ways by which teachers can apply the knowledge gained in everyday teaching.

Impacting Students with Special Gifts and Needs Through 🖆 Brain Research™

Recent developments in brain research have the potential to improve teaching and learning dramatically-provided that educators understand how to take the theory behind brain research and apply it effectively in their classrooms. In this powerful online course you will learn about the latest research and how to incorporate brain-optimizing techniques in your daily planning.

Impacting Teaching & Learning with Brain Research™

Based on David Sousa's practical and powerful discoveries, this dynamic online course explores the benefits of applying brain research to affect how students learn and to improve levels of achievement. Discover how physiological and learning cycles affect students' abilities to learn.

Inclusion Strategies for Educators™

The challenge of teaching students with diverse learning needs pervades the 21st century classroom. The purpose of this course is to provide educators with a broader understanding of forces driving legislation and basic principles and practices for management of the inclusive classroom, and an exploration of the need for effective collaboration among educators to ensure success of all students.

Inquiry-Based Learning and Teaching in Science Education™

Inquiry-based learning describes a process of educational discovery. Participants are guided to discover teaching utilizing method of inquiry-based learning, encouraged to ask meaningful questions as they will encourage their students, and decide how to answer those questions. This course culminates by requiring participants to create engaging inquiry based

Managing Pressures of the Teaching Profession™

Left unmanaged, stress can make even the most experienced teacher ineffective. This very popular course promotes an understanding of how stress affects the teaching and learning process. Learn to model and teach effective stress management skills so that your students can reach their potentials.

More Chances to Learn™

Beyond theory, this course gives you realistic strategies for fostering student development. Help your students discover personal strengths, build self-esteem, and develop leadership skills. You will be given examples of multiple intelligences and shown how to use them.

NEW No Child Left Inside: Examining Rationale and Methods to Use the Outdoors as a Classroom

Outdoor education is an instructional wave that is sweeping across the nation. School forests, class gardens, ropes courses, nature centers, interdisciplinary outdoor lessons, and adventure trips are becoming commonplace in the curriculum. This course, "No Child Left Inside," makes sense of all the research, practices, and theories so that educators are confident that they can use the outdoors as another tool in their arsenal to teach students.

Preparing Students for Adulthood: Promoting Positive Life Outcomes for Students[™]

Teachers and educational personnel who take this course will gain insight and knowledge into transition best practices and strategies needed to meet requirements of a student's Individualized Education Program while also learning concepts that are beneficial for all students. For regular and special educators, this course will enhance teaching practices that focus on those skills necessary for preparing children and teens for adulthood.

NEW Reading Strategies to Ensure Intermediate and Secondary Student Success™

One of the greatest roadblocks to student learning in the classroom is a difficulty with reading comprehension and the various texts used in the classroom setting. This course will look at the basics of reading comprehension and what the regular classroom teacher can do to help a student access the texts successfully in a multitude of situations. This course will be helpful to those intermediate and secondary teachers with little to no reading instruction background.

ACADEMIC COURSES



~ é 💮 Response to Intervention: A Shift to Serving Educational Needs – Not Categorical Labels[™] Response to Intervention (RTI) is a federally mandated program assisting struggling students developing grade level academic skills in a variety of areas. The program is designed to assist those students who often fall between the cracks. Educators will become familiar with key elements of RTI and best practices in the field shown to increase academic growth for students. In-depth analysis of matching services to varied student characteristics allow teachers and educational professionals to further explore the impact of culture and learning diversity issues influencing student achievement. Teaching English Language Learners in the é 💮 Regular Classroom[™] Schools in the United States are becoming culturally and linguistically more diverse. This course is designed to provide K-12 teachers, administrators, and staff with an opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of issues, instructional methods and strategies regarding English language learners (ELL). The Art of Cooperation: Cooperative Learning in the Classroom[™] [™] This course introduces teachers to basic components of cooperative learning, demonstrates how these components are combined in many different cooperative learning methods, and gives teachers the opportunity to plan lessons using methods and techniques that are appropriate to their individual classrooms. The Differentiated Classroom™ **~** Students today have widely varying levels of learning readiness, learning styles, strengths and weaknesses in the nine intelligences, personal interests, and cultural backgrounds. Gain strategies for differentiating the learning experiences of students within the same classroom to maximize each child's potential. The Power of Brain-Compatible Learning: Translating Ð **Research into Practice** é 👧 Optimize your students' learning capacity, increase their retention, and minimize the need to re-teach! This course assists you in understanding the profound implications of recent brain research in educational practice. Based on the work of leading experts in the field, the course utilizes education-oriented texts, remarkable video footage, and experiential in-class activities. learning activities and projects that they can immediately use in their classrooms. Toolkit for Creating Collaborative Learners™ • This engaging online course is developed to help teachers understand the composite skill sets students of all ages need to learn to function effectively in a collaborative environment, to introduce teachers to simple and effective cooperative Kagan "structures" that help students develop these skills, and to provide opportunities for teachers to adapt the structures to any age level or discipline. Tools for Professional Resilience™ This course is designed to turn the tables on the stress and burnout plaguing professional educators by giving them the tools they need to proactively build resilience, manage stress, prevent burnout, and maximize their effectiveness in the classroom. Transforming Students into Mathematicians™ This course offers practical ideas and teaching methods for helping and encouraging students of all ages to see math as a necessary and useful tool in every area of life. Eliminate their fear of math and open up intriguing new avenues of exploration and discovery aimed at equipping your math students with problem-solving insights and skills. Transforming Students into Readers™ **~** é 🖸 Teaching students to read and motivating them to want to continue to read is an ongoing process. This course will guide you through exploring the cognitive, developmental and environmental aspects of the reading process, and show how to foster a life-long love of reading in your students. Transforming Students into Writers™ This lively online course is designed to explore all aspects of academic writing, from imaginative to poetic to critical. Assignments are designed so teachers can adapt them to Ð their individual classroom needs and interests.

Online 📾 / Site-based 👧 / Moodle M



TECHNOLOGY COURSES

MORE COURSES AVAILABLE, SEE WEBSITE FOR DETAILS



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DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE

FOR SITE BASED & ONLINE COURSES

For pricing, current specials & to enroll

888.550.5465 www.connectinglink.com

TUITION

Site-Based Graduate-Credit Tuition

Online Graduate-Credit Tuition

- Pay in full or pay a \$150 non-refundable deposit to reserve your seat.
- Full payment is not required to receive available discounts.
- Tuition balance is due on or before the first day of class.
- Tuition varies by course, please contact us for pricing.
- Payment in full is required upon enrollment.

Course prices may vary by topic and format. Visit our website or call for current pricing and special discounts.

POLICIES

SITE-BASED COURSE POLICIES

Retund policy: If you withdraw from a course 7 or more days before the first day of class, you will receive a refund of the amount you paid less the \$150 nonrefundable deposit. If you fail to notify The Connecting Link at least 7 days prior to the start date of the course, no refund will be provided. Please allow 3-4 weeks for your refund. Cancellation policy: If a course is cancelled by The Connecting Link, we will notify you approximately two weeks prior to the first day of class. You may transfer to another site-based or online course at the same tuition as your original course purchase price or receive a full refund. Please note that some circumstances may prevent us from providing two weeks notice. Transfer policy: If you are unable to attend your course, and notify The Connecting Link 7 days or more before the first day of class, you may transfer into a different site-based or online course. The new course must be held within 6 months of the original course start date. You will be subject to the regular price of the new course in effect at that time, and a \$30 processing fee will be assessed. No additional discounts are applicable. Reminder: The Connecting Link will email a grade letter to you upon receiving your final grade from your instructor. Transcripts will be available from our academic partner approximately six to eight weeks after the completion of your course.

ONLINE COURSE POLICIES

Beginning your course: You may start your online course as soon as you receive your materials and all necessary log-in information. Once you log on to your course, you have 12 weeks to complete your course. You must log on to your course within 60 days of purchase; otherwise, you will be subject to a \$25 re-activation fee. Refund policy: To qualify for a refund, you must notify The Connecting Link within 21 days of the date of purchasing your online course. You must not have logged on or activated your account; otherwise, you will not be eligible for a refund. The Connecting Link will issue a refund of your purchase price, less a \$150 cancellation fee per course, after your materials are returned. (Please allow 3-4 weeks for your refund.) Returning Materials: To receive a refund, you must contact The Connecting Link to be issued a Return Materials Authorization (RMA) number. You will be advised to return your materials to The Connecting Link, Attn: Online Returns Department. To remain eligible for a refund, materials must be received by The Connecting Link within 21 days of the RMA number being issued.

• The Connecting Link is a great resource for affordable learning. The course content is excellent as well as their instructors. I highly recommend The Connecting Link courses to professionals!

- Janene, The Power of Brain-Compatible LearningTM





PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR EDUCATORS

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PRESORTED STANDARD

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DIDN'T FIND A CLASS THAT MEETS YOUR SCHEDULE?

Call us to learn more about ClassBuildersTM. The Connecting Link students have the flexibility to put together courses that meet their needs (subject, time, and location).