WESTERN
COLORADO UNIVERSITY

TEACHER INSTITUTE

June 3-June 15 2024

Course Catalog

The Teacher Institute resides in the Education Department at Western Colorado University. The Center for Learning & Innovation helps to support registration and billing. The Teacher Institute is able to provide tuition discounts thanks to the Ann Zugelder Endowment.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION:

Registration will open on **April 1st**. Please use the linked form to register (also available on the website)

REGISTER HERE

Please note the early bird discounted price is available on a first come, first serve basis. The Ann Zugelder endowment fund for the Teacher Institute allows for a $70/credit discount. Once the endowment amount for 2024 has been accounted for, the cost per credit will be the full price. ***Register early to ensure you receive the early bird discounted credit price.***

Registration will remain open until the start of the Teacher Institute.

The deadline for dropping, cancelling, changing a course without a fee is : 5/15/2024

Modifications to the registration made after this date will incur a $50 fee.

The last date to drop a course for a refund is: 5/15/2024

ON-CAMPUS HOUSING

On-campus housing in Dillon Pinnacles will be available this year. Participants can reserve housing starting April 1st. Reservation requests will end on May 15th

RESERVE HOUSING HERE

Conference Services is managing on-campus housing this year, and so there have been a few changes.

Please note that the final day to reserve housing is May 15th. Additionally, this is the final day to cancel for a refund.

Housing will be reserved as a 3-night package only – starting the day before the course (check in 4-6pm), and ending the final day of the course (check out 10am). The participant can reserve as many sessions of housing needed. But the package can not be split up. The session packages are as follows:

- SESSION I: Sun-Wed, 6/2-6/5/24
- SESSION II: Wed-Sat, 6/5-6/8/24
- SESSION III: Sun-Wed, 6/9-6/12/24
- SESSION IV: Wed-Sat, 6/12-6/15/24

On-campus housing package cost: $120 per session

ON-CAMPUS CHILDCARE

The Junior Mountaineers Camp offers child care and programming for K-6th graders.

Visit their website for more information: JUNIOR MOUNTAINEER CAMP

Western Teacher Institute June Schedule 2024

Session I: M 6/3-W 6/5	Session II: Th 6/6-Sat 6/8	Session III: M 6/10-W 6/12	Session IV: Th 6/13-Sat 6/15
American Sign Language Karen Immerso 2 credits	***Connecting with our Natural Surroundings*** Rain Bodine 2 credits	***Adventures in CLD Literacy Karen Hausdoerffer & Rita Merrigan*** ***2 credits***	***Applying Assets Based Pedagogies in the Classroom*** Dr. Casey Richardson 2 credits
Brain, Body Connections Angie Carroll 2 credits	***Making Content Comprehensible for Multilingual Learners*** Amanda Martinez 2 credits	***Becoming a Climate Change Educator in Every Discipline*** Sarah Johnson 2 credits	***Building Bridges: Integrating Trauma-Informed Care and ABA Strategies for Positive Student Outcomes*** Leia Henaghan 2 credits
Nature-Inspired Pedagogy: Exploring Scandinavian Ukdeskole Teaching Practices Dr. Jessica Eckhardt 1 credit (Tu/W)	***Schoolyard Field Trips*** Dr. Mandi Leigh 2 credits	***Meeting the Content, Language, and Socioemotional Needs of Migrant Youth*** Dr. Casey Richardson 2 credits	***How Learning Works: Supporting Your Translation of Learning Science Research to Classroom Instruction*** Shawna Angelo & Brittany Kelleher 2credits
Teaching with a Cultural Lens Marketa Zubkova 2 credits	***Trauma-sensitive Teaching for Special and General Education Teachers*** Dr. Tara Mason 2 credits	***Reflective Practices to Reveal the Null Curriculum(s)*** Dr. Mandi Leigh 1 credit (Tu/W)	***Mini Makerspace Design & Implementation: Budget friendly and specific to classroom goals!*** Rain Bodine 2 credits
2024 TEACHER INSTITUTE INFORMATION: **Full course catalog available early March** **western.edu/ti** **Registration opens April 1st**	**On-campus housing available reserve by May 15th**	***Spanish Language Learning*** Karen Immerso 2 credits	***Teaching Exploring Rivers and Water*** Sarah Johnson 2 credits
	Zugelder Teacher Institute Foundation will once again provide early bird tuition discounts **Discounted price $120/credit** **Non-Discounted price $190/credit**	***Wellness for Self & in the Classroom*** Angie Carroll 2 credits	**Course Schedule:** **8am courses begin** **Lunch 12-1** **Courses end around 5 or 6pm** **Morning and afternoon break with treats and snacks!**

Session I: Monday 6/3-Wednesday 6/5

American Sign Language

Karen Immerso

EDUC 510: 2 credits; Early Bird Discount Price $240; Full Price $380, +$5 Fee

M 6/3-W 6/5

Audience: All levels & types of educators

American Sign Language (ASL) is considered a foreign language, a community language or a language of instruction. It is being offered for teachers who have both a personal and professional interest in pursuing new communication skills. This American Sign Language class will take you well beyond general body language awareness in order to become a more widely versed communicator**.** Lessons and practice sessions during this 3- day class will cover the basics of ASL. We will learn basic signs, sentence structure, and fingerspelling. You will begin to build your receptive skills. We will explore some cultural aspects of working with a Deaf and Hard of Hearing population. We will also consider the adaptations for ASL with special needs students. Participants may come to a new level of expression and have fun within this truly "hands-on" learning experience.

Brain, Body, Connections

Angela Carroll

EDUC 510: 2 credits; Early Bird Discount Price $240; Full Price $380, +$5 Fee

M 6/3-W 6/5

Audience: All levels & types of educators

This course will provide information and activities to support and understand brain and body connectivity. Techniques on ways to activate the brain, calm the body, and engage various learners will be provided. Information on metabolism, brain chemicals and body systems will provide a deeper insight into how the brain and body can be set up for success in learning. Information and discussion on movement and cognitive function, importance of crossing the midline, rhythmic motion, and activities that target and increase brain activity will be important components of this course. A deeper look at neuro-diversity and solutions for incorporating a variety of learners in a classroom will be discussed. This course will be engaging and interactive. Participants will actively apply the information learned each day. The course will provide many applicable tools and activities for classroom use and will culminate with developing a lesson plan, or movement methodology, that aligns with each individual teacher and their classroom needs.

Teaching in Natural Places with Scandinavian Ukdeskole

Jessica Eckhardt, Ph.D.

EDUC 510: 1 credit; Early Bird Discount Price $120; Full Price $190

T 6/4-W 6/5

Audience: Pre-K + Elementary level & type of educators

This course introduces educators to the Scandinavian practice of Udeskole, or "outdoor school". Through regular educational activities outside of the school, children in Denmark, Norway, and Sweden are taught foundational lessons in math, history, language, science, social studies, and art in natural and cultural settings. In this course, students will examine the hallmark characteristics of Udeskole and learn tangible ways they can use their local environment to teach a myriad of topics; for example, counting and calculating the volume of trees in mathematics, writing poems in and about nature when teaching languages, or visiting culturally significant places for history and cultural studies. This class

will provide students with the skills and confidence to implement a beloved and well-researched style of nature-based learning, Udeskole, and highlight the educational and socio-emotional benefits of learning outdoors in place-based settings.

Teaching with a Cultural Lens

Marketa Zubkova

EDUC 510: 2 credits; Early Bird Discount Price $240; Full Price $380

M 6/3-W 6/5

Audience: All levels & types of educators

Teaching with a Cultural Lens is an innovative course designed to equip educators with the knowledge, skills, and perspectives necessary to foster inclusive and culturally responsive learning environments. This course analyzes the intersection of culture, education, and pedagogy that will provide teachers with the tools necessary to engage students from diverse backgrounds. Additionally, participants will explore effective strategies for community engagement and collaboration with families to support the diverse needs of students. Through a combination of readings, discussions, case studies, and reflective activities, educators will develop a better understanding of cultural differences which will create a more enriching and equitable experience for students and teachers.

Session II: Thursday 6/6-Saturday 6/8

Connecting with our Natural Surroundings

Rain Bodine

EDUC 510: 2 credits; Early Bird Discount Price $240; Full Price $380, +$5 Fee

Th 6/6- Sat 6/8

Audience: All levels & types of educators

"Connecting with Our Natural Surroundings" is an engaging hands-on course designed to provide immersive strategies that will foster connections to nature in both ourselves and our students. Grounded in experiential learning, nature journaling, and daily field trips in the stunning landscapes of Gunnison, Colorado, this course equips teachers with the knowledge and inspiration to integrate meaningful outdoor experiences into their curriculum. Guided by a book study of Clare Walker Leslie's “Keeping a Nature Journal- Deepen Your Connection with the Natural World All Around You”, Participants will discover innovative ways to engage students with the natural world, sparking curiosity, creativity, and environmental stewardship.

Making Content Comprehensible for Multilingual Learners

Amanda Martinez

EDUC 510; 2 credits; Early Bird Discount Price $240; Full Price $380

Th 6/6-Sat 6/8

Audience: All levels & types of educators

This course is designed to equip educators with essential knowledge and practical strategies for addressing the diverse language needs of multilingual learners (MLLs). Throughout the course, participants will delve into the fundamental characteristics of MLLs, exploring their varied backgrounds and experiences in educational settings. The curriculum emphasizes a foundational understanding of language development stages.

Participants will be introduced to strategies for creating culturally responsive instructional materials, incorporating diverse cultural perspectives to enhance content comprehensibility. The course explores differentiated instruction methods, guiding educators in adapting materials for various language proficiency levels.
Reflective practices are woven into the curriculum, encouraging educators to evaluate and enhance their teaching methods for multilingual learners. The course also touches on strategies for fostering inclusive and supportive classroom environments, addressing challenges related to language diversity. In this condensed yet comprehensive course, participants will gain valuable insights and skills to immediately apply in their classrooms. The curriculum strikes a balance between theoretical foundations and practical strategies, ensuring that educators leave with a solid understanding of how to make content comprehensible for multilingual learners in diverse educational settings. As a participant of this course, you will engage in the Language Experience Approach (Klingner) through a short hike in beautiful Gunnison, and learn how to leverage community partnerships by taking a field trip to the Gunnison public library. Additionally, teachers will develop a mini unit filled with culturally and linguistically responsive teaching practices.

Schoolyard Field Trips

Mandi Leigh, Ph.D.

EDUC 510: 2 credits; Early Bird Discount Price $240; Full Price $380, +$5 Fee

Th 6/6-Sat 6/8

Audience: All levels & types of educators

Focused on community learning, this hyper-local oriented course will explore schoolyards to foster connections among people, life, and the place where they live. Expect to move around the WCU campus, drive/bike/walk to Gunnison Schools, and local places. Participants will explore essential question writing techniques that may be used to ground place-based projects. They will experiment with a variety of means to seek answers to those questions in their content area or in an interdisciplinary way. Participants will explore their bodies as a source of knowledge generation. Also, academically, we will draw connections among the schoolyard, history, arts, science, and literature, that each add more information to answer the essential question. To learn current best practices and relevancy, we will read and discuss prominent scholars and prevailing themes in place-based education. Participants will use their talents to create a unit plan with around a schoolyard field trip in their community.

Trauma-Sensitive Teaching for Special and General Education Teachers

Tara Mason, Ph.D.

EDUC 510; 2 credits; Early Bird Discount Price $240; Full Price $380, +$10 Fee

Th 6/6-Sat 6/8

Audience: All levels & types of educators

As educators, it can be difficult to support students impacted by trauma and the harmful effects of poverty. Research shows that more than 68% of school-aged children have experienced or are experiencing some form of trauma (Pappano, 2014), making it overwhelming to consider how to meet the needs of all of our students. This course provides a community space to create arts-based reflections related to trauma-informed practices in our classrooms and for our students. Through a proactive, Universal Design for Learning (UDL) lens, this course uses arts-based creation to discuss these challenging issues and develop practical strategies for your teaching practice. The focus is initially on developing your self-awareness and curiosity related to trauma-informed pedagogy and results in planning strategies that will support your students. The course focuses on trauma-sensitive strategies through the lens of teaching in differentiated classrooms, providing practical tips, creativity, and guidance for K-12 teachers. The purpose of this course is to: (1) provide an overview of childhood trauma types, effects, and research related to trauma-sensitive instruction based in neuroscience; (2) suggest arts-based activities, mindfulness, and movement strategies for supporting students who are

experiencing the impact of trauma; (3) design teaching supports for a trauma-sensitive classroom culture that promotes joy. This course meets the CDE professional learning requirement contained in HB 20-1128 and HB 20-1312, stating that educators must complete a minimum of 10 contact hours of training in special education and behavioral health with at least one (1) hour in special education or behavioral health. Hope you can join us!

Session III: Monday 6/10-Wednesday 6/12

Adventures in CLD Literacy

Karen Hausdoerffer & Rita Merrigan

EDUC 510; 2 credits; Early Bird Discount Price $240; Full Price $380

M 6/10-W 6/12

Audience: All levels & types of educators

Focused on the needs of Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Learners, this interactive course offers hands-on strategies to engage students in a playful approach to literacy beneficial to students of all ages and backgrounds. Participants will try out games, classroom structures, discussion formats, art projects, and theatre games to enliven approaches to literacy for CLD students. Participants will explore sample Own Voices Literature—books written by diverse writers—and try out ways to use these in the classroom. They will talk about contemporary cultural issues around inclusion. Participants will bring their own ideas for adapting these strategies to each unique learning setting and will share their own learned expertise. Everyone should come willing to move around, laugh, act, take risks, share and have fun together.

Becoming a Climate Change Educator in Every Discipline

Sarah Johnson

ENVS 510; 2 credits; Early Bird Discount Price $240; Full Price $380, +$10 Fee

M 6/10-W6/12

Audience: Secondary levels & types of educators

Continue your journey of becoming a climate change educator by pairing concrete planetary systems and causes of climate change with the human elements: personal experiences, storytelling, and collective action. Education is a climate change solution: you are teaching students to make choices for a just and sustainable world. Climate change is a people issue. If it was only a science issue it would have been solved over 30 years ago. Participants will explore, draft, and articulate their own climate story; review and better understand climate change science; explore climate justice; and experience effective climate change teaching and learning strategies. Using resources including the Climate Literacy Principles, NAAEE Educating for Just Climate Action: Guidelines for Excellence, Climate Generation, Rethinking Schools, UNESCO, CLEAN Network, Climate Mental Health Network, and Colorado specific data you will expand your skills, perspectives, and understandings of how to integrate climate change into your teaching.

Meeting the Content, Language, and Socioemotional Needs of Migrant Youth

Casey Richardson, Ph.D.

EDUC 510; 2 credits; Early Bird Discount Price $240; Full Price $380

M 6/10-W 6/12

Audience: K-12 levels & types of educators

Constant news of waves of migrants does little to humanize their experiences—some of which are greatly influenced by trauma. This course supports educator participants in a growing area of need: meeting the content, language, and socioemotional needs of migrant youth, including newcomers and other special populations in K-12 settings. Educators of any grade who enroll in this course will advance their understandings of migration factors, local community resources, trauma-informed strategies, as well as culturally, linguistically, and identity-affirming pedagogical practices to better serve the culturally and linguistically diverse students in their school/district. Participants will 1) explore diverse migrant stories through film and news articles, 2) curate resources to share with their own communities and 3) develop a trauma-informed and identity-affirming lesson or unit plan for use in their own classrooms.

Reflective Practices to Reveal the Null Curriculum(s)

Mandi Leigh, Ph.D.

EDUC 510; 1 credit; Early Bird Discount Price $120; Full Price $190, +$5 Fee

T 6/11-W 6/12

Audience: All levels & types of educators

The null curriculum is what is omitted from curriculum on purpose or on accident. The null curriculum teaches what is not important, lacks value in the school context, and what is unworthy of our attention. The null curriculum is powerful. The null curriculum contains in it diverse educative and humanizing potential. In this course we will use individual and collaborative reflection techniques to reveal what lives in the null curriculum first, in a canned curriculum, and second, in participants' curriculum. Once revealed, we will critically (as in important) reflect on what ought to move from the null curriculum to the explicit. Participants will develop a set of curriculum analysis tools that will heighten their sense of awareness about curriculum and increase their skills to communicate with school communities about curriculum. Participants will also explore their bodies (often omitted as a learning tool) as teachers in addition to their brains. Participants will collaborate to curate class materials that foster diverse representation, inclusion, and cultures of belonging at any grade level.

Spanish Language and Learning

Karen Immerso

EDUC 510; 2 credits; Early Bird Discount Price $240; Full Price $380, +$5 Fee

M 6/10-W 6/12

Audience: All levels & types of educators

Using activities and conversation, we will study and speak the Spanish language at a beginner/advanced beginner level. This is an active approach for those wanting enough Spanish speaking skills to interact with students and parents within their school in basic conversations. We will introduce vocabulary, the use of verbs and verb tenses, enhance listening and comprehension skills, and practice communicating within this very interactive learning environment. This offering can also model the curricular use of experiential learning activities for classroom situations. This is intended for never-ever Spanish language learners or those who want a basic review in the language.

Wellness for Self & in the Classroom

Angela Carroll

EDUC 510; 2 credits; Early Bird Discount Price $240; Full Price $380, +$5 Fee

M 6/10-W 6/12

Audience: All levels & types of educators

Exploring the eight realms of wellness and ways to positively impact each area will be the focus of this course. In-depth lessons and exercises in each realm will be done throughout the course, including activities for increasing wellbeing in the classroom, and in daily lifestyle habits. Finding ways to put personal wellbeing at the forefront of the day and maintain in the classroom is a topic to be explored. This course will offer a much- needed reset for teachers and provide multiple opportunities to plan for positive individualized routines to be implemented into daily lifestyles for overall wellness improvement. Discussions on barriers to wellness and solutions to overcome these barriers, as well as accessibility, willingness, readiness, and accountability for furthering self-wellness for individuals, classroom communities, and work environments, will be prominent subject matter within the course. Participants of the course will actively explore their journey of wellness and the impact of teaching on wellbeing. Challenges of working within the school system and in a classroom and the impact on the wellbeing of students and faculty will be addressed. Tools, exercises and solutions to counter these challenges will be offered. The course will culminate with the production of an individual and classroom wellness plan for the self and classroom.

Session IV: Thursday 6/13-Saturday 6/15

Applying Assets Based Pedagogies in the Classroom

Casey Richardson, Ph.D.

EDUC 510; 2 credits; Early Bird Discount Price $240; Full Price $380

Th 6/13-Sat 6/15

Audience: All levels & types of educators

The Colorado Department of Education, among other institutions and organizations, has promoted assets-based pedagogies (e.g., culturally responsive teaching and culturally sustaining pedagogy) as current best practice. Moving beyond student-centered approaches, assets-based pedagogies require educators to examine social injustices and situate oneself within this critical and reflective work. Studies show that the implementation of assets-based pedagogical approaches has resulted in increased academic achievement of culturally and linguistically diverse (CLD) students and benefits every student even in seemingly homogenous schools or classrooms. This course will cover for educators of any grade or content area how to establish an inclusive, welcoming environment and high expectations; how to develop critical consciousness; how to counter dominant narratives and color-evasiveness; and how to build students' critical and multiliteracies to successfully navigate real world communication across various modes and genres common to the content area. Educators who enroll in this course will leave confident in their abilities to enact assets-based pedagogical practices given the modeling and application opportunities within this course.

Building Bridges: Integrating Trauma-Informed Care and ABA Strategies for Positive Student Outcomes

Leia Henaghan

EDUC 510; 2 credits; Early Bird Discount Price $240; Full Price $380, + $10 fee.

Th 6/13-Sat 6/15

Audience: All levels & types of educators

Embark on a transformative journey in this innovative course, blending the principles of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) with trauma-informed practices. Delve into the core principles of ABA, empowering educators to understand and implement effective teaching strategies. Through hands-on learning, participants will craft a versatile teaching toolbox tailored to address diverse student needs, fostering a supportive classroom environment. This dynamic curriculum equips educators with evidence-based interventions to navigate common challenges, from behavioral issues to social-emotional learning and trauma-informed education. Gain invaluable insights into assessing behaviors, implementing ABA teaching procedures, and cultivating a calm, connected learning atmosphere. Whether you are a seasoned educator seeking to refine your approach or a novice teacher eager to enhance classroom dynamics, this course offers practical

guidance to elevate your teaching practice. Join us on this enriching educational journey and unlock the keys to student success!

How Learning Works: Supporting Your Translation of Learning Science Research to Classroom Instruction

Shawna Angelo & Brittany Kelleher

EDUC 510; 2 credits; Early Bird Discount Price $240; Full Price $380

Th 6/13-Sat 6/15

Audience: All levels & types of educators

How Learning Works is all about empowering students and teachers to think differently using learning sciences. Come ready to transform traditional teaching practices by exploring the questions: How can we "work smarter and not harder" and use the natural efficiencies of how the brain learns to support our learning journeys? How can we make complex science understandable, applicable and practical to the classroom teacher? How can the learning sciences help our students – such as understanding emotions related to mistakes, understanding how shifting their study habits from rereading and highlighting text to retrieving information can improve their own test scores? How can we use learning sciences to challenge the way we think about lesson design? What do these mean for your classroom tomorrow and your planning processes today? Be prepared to use the learning sciences research as a foundation to redesign a unit of study for the upcoming school year. Unpacking the foundational "why's" from a learning sciences lens, and exploring how teachers are currently translating the promising principles of learning sciences into classroom practices and strategies. Participants of this class will redesign every facet of a unit from planning, instructional design, student work, and assessments to reflections for both teachers and students. Participants will leave class with new lesson

Mini Makerspace Design & Implementation: Budget friendly and specific to classroom goals!

Rain Bodine

EDUC 510; 2 credits; Early Bird Discount Price $240; Full Price $380, +$5 Fee

Th 6/13-Sat 6/15

Audience: All levels & types of educators

Mini Makerspaces, Design and Implementation will empower K-12 educators to design, integrate, and advocate for your students' hands-on learning in your own classrooms. This course will help guide teachers as well as provide examples, and resources necessary to seamlessly integrate makerspaces and STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) activities into their classrooms, even on a limited budget. Students will explore practical strategies, creative approaches, and cost-effective solutions that enable educators to create dynamic and engaging student-centered stations within their existing learning environments. All participants will be able to customize their goals for this class to specifically support their curriculum needs. We will also have some fun tinkering with all the possibilities!

Teaching Exploring Rivers and Water

Sarah Johnson

ENVS 510; 2 credits; Early Bird Discount Price $240; Full Price $380, +$25 Fee

Th 6/13-Sat 6/15

Audience: Elem. + Secondary levels & types of educators

Learn how to integrate rivers and riparian habitat and the complexities of water management in the West into your curriculum through cross-curricular field and classroom learning observing phenomenon, authentic explorations, discussions, and reflection routines. Explore how teaching the process of science can look in the context of local rivers

and streams where you teach. Resources and teaching tools will be utilized from the Library of Congress teaching tools, Project WET: Discover A Watershed, BEETLES Project, CSU's Writing Water, Denver Water's Water Education Resource Guide and others. Field experiences will include visiting local reservoirs, water infrastructure projects, and riverside parks. Students will choose three final course projects from a menu: going out and exploring rivers near their homes, creating a local field trip map, current news articles responses, creating a teaching plan, and citizen science data collecting with iNaturalist and NASA GLOBE Observer.

Session: Travel

The World is a Classroom: Guatemala Immersion for Educators
Steve Foster

EDUC 510: 3 credits; $570

Audience: All levels & types of educators

This travel course will help educators (as learners) develop a deeper understanding of the foundations of language and culture as part of a 2-week immersion program in Guatemala – exclusively for educators. The cultural immersion component will focus on language and culture – specifically for the purpose of enhancing classroom instruction. This learning opportunity will provide the student with hands on learning experiences and activities that cannot be easily duplicated in the traditional classroom. Students will engage in conversations related to the places they visit and apply learning through various activities based exclusively on the sites visited. The dates of this trip are July 7-20, 2024. Cost of course (travel, etc): Tuition is $2,599 and includes everything except international travel expenses and spending money. Please register for the trip separately at spanish4educators.org/register by June 7,2024.