

SPRING 2025

# EDUCATOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

# COURSE CATALOG



**SCHOOL OF OUTREACH**  
THE UNIVERSITY *of* MONTANA WESTERN



## HOW TO REGISTER

BY PHONE: 406.683.7537

Our friendly staff can help you complete registration in 15 minutes or less. Mastercard, Visa, and Discover cards are accepted over the phone for all non-credit course registrations. Please have all registration and card information on hand when calling.

IN-PERSON:

The School of Outreach office is located in Main Hall room 115 and is open for registration from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday-Friday.

ONLINE:

Send email correspondence to outreach@umwestern.edu  
Registration forms can also be requested through email or found on our website at [www.umwestern.edu/school-of-outreach](http://www.umwestern.edu/school-of-outreach)

ACCESSIBILITY:

Upon request, Montana Western provides reasonable accommodations, including written materials in alternative formats for persons with documented disabilities. For more information, please contact UMW Dean of Students by calling 406-683-7900.

MATERIALS:

Some courses require additional books and supplies not covered by the course fee. These supply lists will either be provided upon registration, by the instructor prior to class, or within the course description.

CANCELLATION, FEES AND WAIVERS:

Registration may be canceled for non-payment of fees. Cancellation does not necessarily eliminate registrant from financial obligation. Students taking only extension or non-credit courses do not need to apply or pay for admission. Extension and non-credit courses may not qualify for federal financial aid or fee waivers. Contact the School of Outreach for more information.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

Spring VESi Registration opens  
December 15th

Spring Semester begins  
January 13th

Spring VESi Registration closes  
March 15th

Spring Semester ends  
May 7th

Summer VESi Registration opens  
May 15th



### Montana Western School of Outreach

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CRN	Course Number	Title	Semester Credit	Instructor	Location	Dates	Time	Course Fee	UMW Fee	Registration Deadline
3753	EDU 491E	Advanced Classroom Management: Children as Change Agents	2	Jackson	Online	TBD	TBD	\$150	\$175	Mar 15
3754	EDU 491E	Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder: Information & Intervention for Effective Strategies	2	Jackson	Online	TBD	TBD	\$150	\$175	Mar 15
3755	EDU 491E	Autism Spectrum Disorder: Information & Intervention for Effective Strategies	2	Winnega	Online	TBD	TBD	\$150	\$175	Mar 15
3756	EDU 491E	Behavior is Language: Strategies for Managing Disruptive Behavior	2	Jackson	Online	TBD	TBD	\$150	\$175	Mar 15
3757	EDU 491E	Build School Communities: Brain Smart Classroom Management	2	Reverman	Online	TBD	TBD	\$150	\$175	Mar 15
3758	EDU 491E	Child Abuse: Working With Abused & Neglected Children	2	Halverstadt	Online	TBD	TBD	\$150	\$175	Mar 15
3759	EDU 491E	Drugs & Alcohol in Schools: Understanding Substance Use & Abuse	2	Lea	Online	TBD	TBD	\$150	\$175	Mar 15
3760	EDU 491E	Educational Assessment: Assessing Student Learning in the Classroom	2	Lea	Online	TBD	TBD	\$150	\$175	Mar 15
37xx	EDU 491E	Educational Technology: Effective Use of Technology in the Classroom <b>NEW Course!</b>	3	Rhodes	Online	TBD	TBD	\$150	\$215	Mar 15
3761	EDU 491E	English Language Learner: Evaluation & Assessment	3	Lea	Online	TBD	TBD	\$150	\$215	Mar 15
3762	EDU 491E	English Language Learner: Language Acquisition	3	Lea	Online	TBD	TBD	\$150	\$215	Mar 15
3763	EDU 491E	English Language Learner: Linguistics	3	Lea	Online	TBD	TBD	\$150	\$215	Mar 15
3764	EDU 491E	English Language Learner: Methods & Materials	3	Lea	Online	TBD	TBD	\$150	\$215	Mar 15
3765	EDU 491E	Harassment, Bullying & Cyber-Intimidation in Schools	2	Reynolds	Online	TBD	TBD	\$150	\$175	Mar 15
3766	EDU 491E	Inclusion: Working with Students with Special Needs in General Education Classrooms	2	Lea	Online	TBD	TBD	\$150	\$175	Mar 15
3767	EDU 491E	Learning Disabilities: Practical Information for the Classroom Teacher	3	Lea	Online	TBD	TBD	\$150	\$215	Mar 15
3768	EDU 491E	Reading & Writing in Content Area	2	Bernards	Online	TBD	TBD	\$150	\$175	Mar 15
3769	EDU 491E	Reading Fundamentals #1: An Introduction to Scientifically-based Research	2	Jackson	Online	TBD	TBD	\$150	\$175	Mar 15
3770	EDU 491E	Reading Fundamentals #2: Laying the Foundation for Effective Reading Instruction	2	Jackson	Online	TBD	TBD	\$150	\$175	Mar 15
3771	EDU 491E	Reading Fundamentals #3: The Elements of Effective Reading Instruction & Assessment	3	Jackson	Online	TBD	TBD	\$150	\$215	Mar 15
3772	EDU 491E	Response to Intervention: Practical Information for the Classroom Teacher	3	Lea	Online	TBD	TBD	\$150	\$215	Mar 15
3773	EDU 491E	Six Traits of Writing Model: Teaching & Assessing	2	Lea	Online	TBD	TBD	\$150	\$175	Mar 15
3774	EDU 491E	Social Emotional Learning: Optimizing Learning Environments with Life Skills	3	Lea	Online	TBD	TBD	\$150	\$215	Mar 15
3775	EDU 491E	Supporting At-Risk Young Learners & Their Families	3	Halverstadt	Online	TBD	TBD	\$150	\$215	Mar 15
3776	EDU 491E	Talented & Gifted: Working with High Achievers	2	Bernards	Online	TBD	TBD	\$150	\$175	Mar 15
3777	EDU 491E	Teaching Diversity: Influences & Issues in the Classroom	2	Lea	Online	TBD	TBD	\$150	\$175	Mar 15

<b>KEY</b>	E Extension Course	TBD To Be Determined	V Variable Credit Moodle Learning Management System	Partner Initiated	VESi Course
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CRN	Course Number	Title	Semester Credit	Instructor	Location	Dates	Time	Course Fee	UMW Fee	Registration Deadline
3778	EDU 491E	Teaching Elementary Math Conceptually: A New Paradigm	2	Chapell	Online	TBD	TBD	\$150	\$175	Mar 15
3779	EDU 491E	Teaching Secondary Math Conceptually: Meeting Mathematics Standards	3	Chapell	Online	TBD	TBD	\$150	\$215	Mar 15
3780	EDU 491E	Traumatized Child: The Effects of Stress, Trauma & Violence on Student Learning	2	Halverstadt	Online	TBD	TBD	\$150	\$175	Mar 15
3781	EDU 491E	Try DI!: Planning & Preparing a Differentiated Instruction Program	3	Dahl	Online	TBD	TBD	\$150	\$215	Mar 15
3782	EDU 491E	Understanding Aggression: Coping with Aggressive Behavior in the Classroom	3	Lea	Online	TBD	TBD	\$150	\$215	Mar 15
3783	EDU 491E	Understanding & Implementing Common Core Standards	3	Dahl	Online	TBD	TBD	\$150	\$215	Mar 15
3784	EDU 491E	Violence in Schools: Identification, Prevention & Intervention Strategies	2	Lea	Online	TBD	TBD	\$150	\$175	Mar 15
3785	EDU 491E	Why DI? An Introduction to Differentiated Instruction	3	Dahl	Online	TBD	TBD	\$150	\$215	Mar 15

## Advanced Classroom Management: Children as Change Agents

This course focuses on cognitive and cognitive-behavioral interventions with an emphasis on teaching students how to change and manage their own behavior. Previous knowledge and understanding of traditional behavioral concepts and strategies is required. It is recommended that students take an introductory behavior management course to learn the basic terms and concepts of behavior management prior to taking this course.

## Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder: Information & Intervention for Effective Teaching

This course will help the learner achieve a better understanding of ADHD and intervention strategies to facilitate positive student change. learn the history of the disorder, accepted methods to assess and identify students with the disorder, and various methods, medications, and strategies that are currently used to treat it. Referral processes for providing services to the student outside of the classroom will also be addressed.

## Autism Spectrum Disorder: Information & Intervention for Effective Strategies

Provides information on the characteristics of the disorder, associated learning styles, communication weaknesses and various intervention strategies that have proven to be successful when working with students with Autism spectrum disorders. Make sense of why individuals with Autism spectrum disorders act the way they do and what you can do to enhance more appropriate behavior.

## Behavior is Language: Strategies for Managing Disruptive Behavior

This course is designed to give the learner a new perspective on student behavior and effective tools to facilitate positive student change. This course provides a developmental framework to help the learner understand what students are trying to communicate through the "language" of their behavior. Topics covered include behavioral techniques and intervention strategies that remediate disruptive behaviors, reduce power struggles while increasing classroom control, reduce educator workload, and help prevent burnout. After successfully completing this course, the educator and his/her students will be better equipped to find and implement creative, effective solutions to behavioral problems.

## Build School Communities: Brain Smart Classroom Management

This course helps teachers build genuine bonds between themselves and their students and between students and their classmates, to create "kindred classhomes" with a foundation of acceptance, respect, and shared purpose. This course will help you develop strategies, rituals, and environmental design skills to create these safe havens of learning. Students will learn how to differentiate for classroom management and discipline similarly to differentiating for students' diverse academic needs.

## Child Abuse: Working with Abused & Neglected Children

This course covers how to recognize the signs of physical, emotional, and sexual abuse, and physical and emotional neglect in students. It

also discusses the specific factors that exist in families who abuse or neglect their children. A major emphasis in this course is on helping the participant understand the special learning needs of abused or neglected children and how to meet those needs in the regular classroom. Focus on working with parents and community agencies.

## Drugs & Alcohol in Schools: Understanding Substance Use & Abuse

This course provides a contextual framework for understanding what students may be experiencing either through their own substance use or as a result of the substance use of persons close to them and provides a basic historical perspective of substance use along with the biological, psychological, and social factors that comprise the disease of addiction. Upon course completion, the learner will better understand the complex dynamics that contribute to this biological and social phenomenon.

## Educational Assessment: Assessing Student Learning in Classroom

This course is designed to further develop the conceptual and technical skills required by teachers to help them identify their educational goals and implement meaningful instructional strategies for effective learning by students with special needs. The focus of the course is on assessment for instructional programming and will outline procedures for designing or selecting, administering, and interpreting, a variety of informal assessment measures typically used in schools.

## Educational Technology: Effective Use of Technology in the Classroom

Technology integration doesn't have to be hard. In fact, it should be easy! Regardless of your skill level, this course will walk you through innovative technology that will inspire your creativity and elevate the way you share information and ideas. Students will learn how to select and evaluate technology tools to align to current curriculum. You will gain knowledge and skill to effectively pursue professional growth in educational technology. Through discovery, reflection, and analysis you will realize practical applications of interactive digital tools. You will have the opportunity to explore easy to learn internet-based multimedia that can be integrated inside and outside of the classroom. This course will also provide pathways for you to improve your practice through self-reflection. You will leave with a toolbox of strategies and ideas to transform everyday content into extraordinary products.

## English Language Learners: Evaluation & Assessment

This course discusses what is a high-quality assessment and the scope of assessments including initial placement, annual assessments, and exit assessments. This course ends with a discussion of classroom assessments including accommodations for those who need language assistance.

## English Language Learners: Language Acquisition

This course discusses developmental theories and how they apply to English language learners. The focus is on the process of second language acquisition and the role of the classroom teacher. Included in this course is information about the legal obligations of schools and teachers to provide services and about the types of programs

schools might provide. Included is information on communicating with parents/guardians.

## English Language Learners: Linguistics

ELL: Linguistics was written to help teachers understand concepts and terms related to educating students whose first language is not English. This course discusses how to understand theoretical foundations of linguistics and how to apply the knowledge and skills in linguistics in ELL classrooms and content classrooms.

## English Language Learners: Methods & Materials

This course discusses how to apply instructional methods in creating lessons; how to create a motivating and caring learning environment; how to integrate teaching reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills; how to differentiate instruction for English language learners; and how to identify culturally appropriate curriculum and instructional resources.

## Harassment, Bullying & Cyber-Intimidation in Schools

This course will discuss definitions and the personal, social, and legal ramifications associated with sexual harassment, bullying, and cyber-intimidation. The course will address what we know about these troubling areas and explore preventative strategies as well as how school staff can address these issues when they occur. A clear understanding of what constitutes harassment and the harmful effects of harassment on people and institutions is essential to providing a safe and inclusive school environment for all.

## Inclusion: Working with Students with Special Needs in General Education Classrooms

Inclusion is a current educational reform movement that advocates educating students with disabilities in the general education classroom. Upon completion, the learner will be able to define key concepts and terms, identify and describe federal legislature and court cases, and list and describe the federal definition of students entitled to special services. This course will also discuss the roles and responsibilities of educators in providing special services to students educated in inclusive classrooms.

## Learning Disabilities: Practical Information for the Classroom Teacher

This course lays the foundation for sensitive, appropriate assessment and evaluation of students. This course covers program planning and implementation, stresses the importance of a close, positive partnership with parents or alternative caregivers, and explores methods for ensuring that the home-school axis is effective and meaningful. Major trends and unresolved issues in the field of learning disabilities are also discussed.

## Reading & Writing in Content Area

This course offers instruction in teaching reading and writing in various subject matter fields at the secondary level. The material stresses the skills of vocabulary building, comprehension, and writing, as well as methods for motivating adolescents to read and write. The course also provides information on recognizing reading difficulties, assessing textbooks, and the integration of reading strategies within a content area. The strategies taught are aligned with the Praxis Reading Across the Curriculum test guide and the Reading in the Content Area national standards.

## Reading Fundamentals #1: An Introduction to Scientifically-based Research

This course will improve your knowledge of science and the scientific process. This is the first course in a three-course series. This course is designed to be an informational course with application to educational settings. The curriculum suggestions and teaching strategies explained are designed to be used for the teaching and remediation of students in kindergarten through sixth grade. Some alterations may be needed if working with specific populations such as gifted, ESL, or special education.

## Reading Fundamentals #2: Laying the Foundation for Effective Reading Instruction

Designed to lay the foundation for effective reading instruction, this course will teach you about the elements of effective instruction and the importance of reading instruction. Teachers benefit, and more importantly, students benefit, both in terms of their behavior and their academic performance. Further, you will learn about the importance of reading instruction

and read some sobering statistics on reading performance in this country and what happens when individuals are not proficient in reading.

### Reading Fundamentals #3: The Elements of Effective Reading Instruction & Assessment

This course will focus on learning to read, reading to learn, and an introduction to reading assessment. As part of these two key areas of reading instruction, the five elements of effective reading instruction will be highlighted, including definitions, implications for instruction, and future directions. These five elements include instruction in: phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and text comprehension. The course will provide information on important assessment terms and definitions and will explore how reading assessment fits within the Reading First Program. This analysis includes specific recommendations on 29 reading assessments. Finally, the course describes how teachers can conduct pivotal curriculum-based measurement procedures in their classrooms.

### Response to Intervention: Practical Information for the Classroom Teacher

RTI, or Response to Intervention, is a process schools can and should use to help students who are struggling with academics or behavior. RTI is primarily linked to special education and the early identification of learning problems, RTI is not just for students in special education. RTI is for all students and is based on the premise that a student might be struggling due to instruction or the curriculum in the past, or in the current classroom. Every teacher will have students who are struggling and whether it's short term or long term, RTI is a valuable tool.

### Six Traits of Writing Model: Teaching & Assessing

This course will discuss why writing is important and why teachers should include writing as often as possible in all content areas. The course will also include practical applications for assessing and teaching writing, including teaching students how to self-assess their own writing. This course will discuss why teaching writing is important provide an introduction and discuss the elements of the Six Traits of Writing Model. Throughout those elements we will look at practical ways to use this model in your classroom.

### Social Emotional Learning: Optimizing Learning Environments with Life Skills

Social-emotional learning (SEL) is teaching life skills that are foundational to motivation in the

classroom and classroom management. Students who have strong social and emotional skillsets will be more successful in the classroom and in life in general. In this course, students will first examine what social-emotional learning is, including the research foundational to SEL. Then students will examine the five SEL competencies—self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision-making—and explore how each of these can be developed first in the classrooms and then in the schools to create optimal learning environments.

### Supporting At-Risk Young Learners & Their Families

This course discusses the reasons some children are considered at risk of not reaching their full potential and how educators can reverse negative trends. The course discusses the external situations that cause risk, such as poverty, family dysfunction, and environmental influences such as violence, in addition to the internal factors, such as temperament, being a second language learner, and having a disability or a mental health concern. A major emphasis for the class is on how to work with families to provide the resources the family needs to provide healthy and developmentally appropriate experiences for young children. Interventions for both the child and the family are included, as are the hallmarks of excellent early childhood programs.

### Teaching Diversity: Influences & Issues in the Classroom

Designed to give teachers the knowledge, tools and dispositions to effectively facilitate a diverse classroom. This course will help teachers understand and identify differences in approaches to learning and performance, including different learning styles and ways in which students demonstrate learning. An emphasis in this course will be on understanding how students' learning is influenced by individual experiences, talents, disabilities, gender, language, culture, family and community values. Participants will be challenged to apply knowledge of the richness of contributions from our diverse society to your teaching field.

### Teaching Elementary Math Conceptually: A New Paradigm

This course is designed to expand your methodology for teaching mathematics. The course will explore an innovative teaching model that incorporates strategies for teaching concepts constructively and contextually. The goal is for you to gain a deeper understanding of the

underlying concepts of various math topics and to explore the principles of teaching those concepts to learners. This course will focus on the topics of number sense, basic operations, and fractions.

### Teaching Secondary Math Conceptually: Meeting Mathematics Standards

This course will explore an instructional methodology that incorporates strategies for teaching concepts constructively and contextually. The goal is for you to gain a deeper understanding of the underlying concepts of various math topics and explore the principles of teaching those concepts to learners. The course will also explore teaching methodologies that support many federal and state standards.

### Traumatized Child: The Effects of Stress, Trauma & Violence on Student Learning

Participants will learn the signs and symptoms of stress and trauma and explore how stress, violence, and trauma affect a student's learning, cognitive brain development, and social-emotional development. The consequences of being exposed to stress, trauma, or violence, as well as the social and family causes, will be reviewed. The dynamics of domestic violence and community violence are also discussed, as is the educator's role in the intervention and prevention of violence. in K-12 settings.

### Try DI!: Planning & Preparing a Differentiated Instruction Program

Differentiated Instruction (DI) is aimed at creating supportive learning environments for diverse learning populations. Learn methods for self-assessment of the extent to which their current instructional approach reflects the perspective, principles, and practices of the DI approach. The concept of a "theory of action" will also be provided within a DI context. Strategies included in this course have been selected on the basis that they are effective in the widest possible range of educational K-12 settings.

### Understanding Aggression: Coping with Aggressive Behavior in the Classroom

This course includes topics on violence, aggression in the classroom, youth gangs, aggression in sports and on television, how drugs and alcohol play a role in aggression and violence, and "hot spots" that tend to breed aggression and violence. It is designed to help school personnel become more aware of the causes of aggression and ways to evaluate it and intervene before it turns to violence in the schools.

### Understanding & Implementing Common Core Standards

This course has been divided into four chapters. The organization of the course covers the rationale for and design of the Common Core State Standards, the "Common Core Mindset" practitioners need for successful implementation, and what specific actions can be taken for deeper implementation across settings.

### Violence in Schools: Identification, Prevention & Intervention Strategies

This course provides an overview of violence and the motivational purposes behind aggression. The correlation and impact of the media, community, and family upon violence is investigated. Gain an understanding of identification and intervention approaches to working with out-of-control behaviors. Participants will have a better understanding of violence and the motivations behind its use, as well as specific strategies to minimize the occurrence of violence in the school and community.

### Why DI?: An Introduction to Differentiated Instruction

Learn what is meant by Differentiated Instruction (DI) and the common myths associated with creating the differentiated classroom. Legal, theoretical, and pedagogical foundations in the field of education that support the utilization of differentiated instructional practices and principles will be discussed. Reflect on best practices and national trends in the design of the educational setting to meet the needs of a diverse learning population. This course also provides connections to a variety of concepts, variables, and resources that will assist practitioners in aligning their own professional practices with those found in the differentiated classroom.



Register & pay  
in one, quick  
step!  
**productivity.**



Choose a course

Register by the course  
deadline

Check your email for  
confirmation and  
instructions



### Educator Professional Development Courses



#### KEY FEATURES

- Instructor-led courses
- In-person, online or hybrid
- Registration deadlines are course specific
- Course access: 3-5 days post registration
- Completion date unique to course
- Transcripts available January 2025



#### KEY FEATURES

- Self-paced courses
- Online
- Registration: Aug 15th - Oct 15th
- Course access: 3-5 days post registration
- Completion date Dec 10, 2024
- Transcripts available January 2025

**REGISTER NOW**



### Your Pathway to Success Begins Here

These K-12 professional development classes are available to educators through Montana Western. Classes are post baccalaureate undergraduate semester credits. Verify with your school district, certification board, or licensing board to ensure these courses will meet your professional development needs prior to registering.

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