

Session I: Monday 6/2 - Wednesday 6/4

Brain, Body, Connections

Angela Carroll

EDUC 520: 2 credits; Early Bird Discount Price \$228; Full Price \$380, + \$5 Fee

M 6/2-W 6/4

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.

Cartography and Power

Andie Speed, Ph.D.

HIST 520: 2 credits; Early Bird Discount Price \$228; Full Price \$380

M 6/2-W 6/4

Audience: Secondary teachers

Maps play a prominent role as didactic tools in most history courses. They help orient students to the spatial contours of course content, assist in understanding migration patterns or the progress of military conflict, and give students a sense for the relationship between historical geography and the world they live in today. Often, however, maps tend to be mechanisms for passive instruction. This course explores methods for integrating maps as active, participatory instructional tools. First, it provides instructors with the strategies for contextualizing and analyzing cartographical texts – and the sorts of exercises instructors might use to engage students. As part of this, we will interrogate the power dynamics embedded in cartographical representations; the ways in which state legibility and various identities have been and continue to be impacted by maps. Second, by way of an introductory tutorial in QGIS, a free GIS mapping software, the course will give instructors the tools necessary to both construct their own maps for use in the classroom and for giving students the tools for beginning their own journeys into GIS. Note: the materials and exercises for this course are based on in-class experience at a college preparatory school in the DC Metro Area, where they were utilized for students ranging from the eighth to twelfth-grade levels.

Experiential Education

Karen Immerso

EDUC 520: 2 credits; Early Bird Discount Price \$228; Full Price \$380

M 6/2-W 6/4

Audience: All levels & types of educators

This experiential offering will be an active, three-day experience to investigate how to enhance both one's teaching style and lesson plans, as well as the students' learning opportunities, from the perspective of including more experiential components. What does that mean, what does that look like, and what is the theory behind it? We will take set curriculum and units already taught and re-design how to keep them new and interesting going into the next school year. Participants will have time and creative license to brainstorm and practice what makes subjects more active and interactive. Explore new ideas and ways to engage students in powerful experiences while successfully achieving necessary educational outcomes. Defining what is possible through more experiential models will raise discussion and inspire ideas. Different forms, like project-based learning, service learning, expeditionary learning, interdisciplinary learning will be investigated.

From Burnout to Balance

Lea Ann Johnson

EDUC 520: 1 credit; Early Bird Discount Price \$114; Full Price \$190

M 6/2-T 6/3

Audience: All levels & types of educators

Today's educators are finding themselves in an increasing atmosphere of burnout in their workplace and home life; statistics suggest as many as 70% of America's workforce experience a high level of burnout. With increasing expectations on teachers, burnout is leading to more and more vacancies in teaching staff and an epidemic of teacher shortages. This course will explore the various contributors to burnout unique to each individual, and practical solutions to embrace new mindsets around healthy work production, family responsibilities, and self-care. Explore how to break the cycle and reclaim your energy and passion.

Making Math Magic

Jenny Hart & Allison Gomez

EDUC 520: 2 credits; Early Bird Discount Price \$228; Full Price \$380; + \$5 Fee

M 6/2-T 6/3

Audience: Elementary/Middle School General Education & Special Education teachers

Turn reluctant Mathematicians into wizards! Daily math routines can be powerful! This routine supports all math curricula with hands-on, creative, and collaborative experiences. In this class, instructors will review a Daily Number Line Routine used in the upper elementary classroom to build fluency and community. This approach achieves student growth that is off the charts with supplies as simple as Post It notes. We will inspire you to help kids work deeply with numbers: fractions, decimals, percents, money, patterns, multiplication practice, angle measurement, hundreds grids, factoring, arrays, area, perimeter, and decomposing numbers. This daily routine starts simple with repeated skills practice and builds towards more complex concepts. These procedures lay a strong foundation for many math skills which will be needed going forward. This number line routine is kid-tested, creative, and able to meet the needs of diverse learners in any upper elementary math classroom. Elementary students leave our classes with lifelong Math confidence and skills. We have had so much fun teaching kids this number-line routine. Our students have helped us to modify and adapt this routine over the years. Teachers who enroll in the class will create a daily math routine for their 2nd through 8th-grade classrooms that will achieve growth in their students' math skills! The objectives of this course are practitioner-based. Teachers can immediately implement new ideas/strategies into their teaching as a result of this course.

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

Casey Richardson, Ph.D.

EDUC 520: 2 credits; Early Bird Discount Price \$228; Full Price \$380

M 6/2-W 6/4

Audience: All 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.

Resilient Futures in Rural Colorado: Climate Change Science, Adaptation & Mitigation

Katya Schloesser

EDUC 520: 1 credit; Early Bird Discount Price \$114; Full Price \$190, +\$5 Fee

T 6/3-W 6/4

Audience: Secondary Science teachers

2024 was the warmest year on record - a year that brought historic heat waves, hurricanes, wildfires, and ice melt. What's happening here in Colorado, and what can we expect in the future? Join us to learn about the latest research with scientists and educators who focus on Colorado ecosystems and communities. We will hear from a variety of experts - including Western Slope and NOAA scientists, and educators at CEEE (the Center for Education, Engagement and Evaluation at CU Boulder), CLEAN (the Climate Literacy, Energy and Awareness Network) and Science on a Sphere. We will focus on water resources and wildfire risk, with all workshop content tied to the CDE Science Standards and NGSS.

We will explore local data sets, lessons and practices for teaching and learning about climate science, the latest climate literacy principles, and interactive place-based tools for engaging students with project-based learning. Additionally, we will share best practices for supporting students' mental health and climate anxiety and resources on how to build a High School Diploma Seal of Climate Literacy program, a new option made available from the CDE.

Session II: Thursday 6/5 - Saturday 6/7

American Sign Language

Karen Immerso

EDUC 520: 2 credits; Early Bird Discount Price \$228; Full Price \$380

Th 6/5- Sat 6/7

Audience: All levels & types of educators

American Sign Language (ASL) is more than just a foreign language of the Deaf. It is inclusive and adds power to your instruction from the perspective of greater cultural and linguistic sensitivity. Do you have both a personal and professional interest in pursuing new communication skills and adding more visual cues for your students? This course will take us well beyond general body language awareness. Through active lessons and practice sessions during this 3-day experience, we will cover the basics of ASL, including basic signs, sentence structure, and fingerspelling. Additionally, we will build receptive skills and creative usages to engage students. While we explore some cultural aspects of working with Deaf and Hard of Hearing students, we will also consider the adaptations for ASL with other special needs students and general classroom management. Participants may come to a new level of expression and have fun within this truly "hands-on" language learning experience. This course will help to support the completion of CDE's ELPD renewal requirement.

An Educational Roundtable

Angela Carroll

EDUC 520; 2 credits; Early Bird Discount Price \$228; Full Price \$380, + \$5 Fee

Th 6/5-Sat 6/7

Audience: All levels & types of educators

Having the ability to include a wide range of individuals and foster their needs, in a classroom setting with a set timeline and agenda, is one of a teacher's many challenges. We are all unique individuals and offer value in our differences. Within our society there is much that has been deemed "right" and "normal," and anything varied is labeled different or divergent, which can lead to individuals feeling "wrong" or "less than." This course will provide a time for teachers to discuss, share, brainstorm and collaborate on embracing student diversity. We will take an in-depth look at the meaning of diversity and the various effects and impacts on the classroom. This will include working on exercises and ideas for inclusivity of neurodivergent thinkers and the greatly varied cultural aspects, and individuality, of students. We will also discuss the difficulties of working as a teacher and brainstorm ways to address the prevalent issues in the modern-day classroom. This course will explore solutions and offer the opportunity to hold in-depth discussions on ways to create inclusive classroom communities. Education and awareness of the impact on students that are "different" from what has been dubbed "normal" will be a focus of this course. The creation of applicable ideas of how to generate changes to the classroom environment and curriculums, ways to counter the restrictions of systems, and how to actively embrace various forms of diversity will be the main work of this course.

Bridging Language & Learning for Multilingual Excellence

Amanda Martinez

EDUC 520; 2 credits; Early Bird Discount Price \$228; Full Price \$380

Th 6/5-Sat 6/7

Audience: All levels & types of educators

The 2-credit course, "Bridging Language and Learning for Multilingual Excellence," 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 2-credit course, participants will gain valuable insights and skills to immediately apply in their classrooms. Additionally, teachers will earn 30 hours toward the required 45 hours of PD in CLDE for recertification. 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.

Genre-based Writing within Different Disciplines

Casey Richardson, Ph.D.

EDUC 520; 2 credits; Early Bird Discount Price \$228; Full Price \$380

Th 6/5-Sat 6/7

Audience: All levels & types of educators

Writing is a common challenge faced by K-12 students, and their teachers often have difficulty finding the time to teach writing effectively. Participants in this course will learn a genre approach to teaching writing and will participate in the writing teaching and learning cycle to later be able to model and advance their students' disciplinary literacy. The course begins with an overview of the rhetorical situation, then moves into genre analysis with the opportunity to create a writing lesson or unit and assets-based writing rubric for future use. This course is relevant to teachers of many content areas beyond English language arts (ELA), including but not limited to: science, history, performing/theater arts, and others.

Self-Care for Teachers: Daily Practices for Stressful Times

Lea Ann Johnson

EDUC 520; 2 credits; Early Bird Discount Price \$228; Full Price \$380, + \$10 Fee

Th 6/5-Sat 6/7

Audience: All levels & types of educators

Many teachers and administrators experience high levels of stress in their personal lives and the ongoing demands of their jobs. This course is designed to unshackle some of that stress and offer teachers a multitude of "daily practices" to take home to sustain their well-being. Participants will spend two days devoted to brain research and hands-on experiences to help untangle and let go. Each student will experiment with a variety of meditations, restorative yoga, and journaling exercises to take home and make a part of their daily lives. The directive for the two credits will be to implement and establish a routine of wellness that can carry over to the classroom and school environments. User friendly for beginner or novice.

Session III: Monday 6/9 - Wednesday 6/11

Becoming a Climate Literacy Educator: Tools and Techniques

Sarah Johnson

ENVS 520; 2 credits; Early Bird Discount Price \$228; Full Price \$380, + \$10 Fee

M 6/9-W 6/11

Audience: Secondary (6-12) educators

Becoming a climate literacy educator is a journey. The new Colorado Seal of Climate Literacy graduation endorsement was passed by the state legislature in May 2024. Now, schools have an opportunity to adopt this and make a commitment to developing climate literate students and ultimately, communities. Climate literacy is an understanding of how the climate system works, how human actions influence climate, and how climate influences people and other parts of the Earth system. This is important in Colorado because people who understand the processes, causes, and effects of climate change are better able to assess evidence and claims about evidence, discuss options to manage risks and take well-informed actions.

This course will inspire educators to help their students become climate-literate people who understand Earth's climate system and options to address human-caused climate change, recognize credible information about climate change and know where to find it, communicate about climate change in accurate and effective ways, and make informed decisions related to climate change.

In this course, you will combine scientific concepts and mechanisms of climate change with human experiences, storytelling, climate justice, and collective action. You will explore effective strategies to teach climate literacy in your classrooms, focusing on climate stories, an understanding of climate science, climate justice, and the observation of landscape changes over time. Participants will utilize accessible tools and Colorado data to enhance their skills and perspectives on incorporating climate literacy into their teaching. The course will also include walk-throughs in local parks and public spaces.

Building Bridges: Connecting Trauma Awareness and Behavior Strategies in Education

Leia Henaghan

EDUC 520; 2 credits; Early Bird Discount Price \$228; Full Price \$380, + \$10 Fee

M 6/9-W 6/11

Audience: All levels & types of educators

Unlock the potential of your classroom with this transformative course, designed to meet the license renewal requirements of HB 20-1128 and HB 20-1312 for Colorado teachers and administrators. This course equips you with tools to create inclusive, culturally responsive, and trauma-informed learning environments that support all students, especially those with disabilities. You'll explore how trauma affects student behavior, learning, and brain development while gaining insights into diverse student profiles. Reflective practices and hands-on strategies will help you manage sensory triggers, reframe negative thinking, and foster a safer, more supportive classroom.

The course introduces the basics of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA), including reinforcement, punishment, and shaping behaviors. You'll master the four functions of behavior; escape, attention, access to tangibles, and sensory stimulation and learn how to apply the ABC framework to tailor interventions. Practical strategies like behavior contracts, group contingencies, and response cost systems will help you promote positive behavior and create a thriving classroom. With resources like the "Teacher Toolbox" and excerpts from the ABA Visualized guidebook, you'll leave this course ready to implement evidence-based strategies that ensure success for all students. Don't miss this opportunity to enhance your teaching and transform your classroom!

Connecting with Our Natural Surroundings – Part 2

Rain Bodine

EDUC 520; 2 credits; Early Bird Discount Price \$228; Full Price \$380, + \$10 Fee

M 6/9-W 6/11

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", and "How to Teach Nature Journaling: Curiosity, Wonder, Attention" by John Muir Laws. Participants will discover innovative ways to engage students with the natural world, sparking curiosity, creativity, and environmental stewardship.

Teachers will also focus on individual goals related to Curriculum Design: Educators will research and develop pathways to integrate nature-based lessons and activities into existing curricula across various subjects. This course will provide

strategies for aligning outdoor experiences with educational standards while fostering a sense of wonder and curiosity in students. (*Part 1 is *not* a prerequisite for enrolling in this course)

Intentional Differentiation & Language Routines in the Mathematics Classroom

Madison Hays

EDUC 520; 2 credits; Early Bird Discount Price \$228; Full Price \$380

M 6/9-W 6/11

Audience: Secondary Math and Special Education teachers, ELD and newcomer math teachers of all levels

This course is designed to support, equip, and encourage educators to leap into mathematics instruction in an accessible, equitable, and engaging manner. Throughout this course, participants will explore ways to support students with the language of math and grappling with real-world meaning and applications of content to increase achievement and growth in the math classroom. This course will provide instruction with new and engaging strategies to intentionally differentiate content for ALL learners and ability levels. In addition, participants will discuss and reflect on barriers present in math classrooms, biases that exist, and establish their own mathematical instruction pedagogy to influence their future work. This course will model various activities, language routines, best practices, and instructional practices that participants will then take and morph to suit their setting.

Participants will leave this course having created a year plan/overview, lessons for one unit of study, and a refreshed, equitable lens through which to start and guide their work over the next year. Whether participants are math educators or language/ability supporters in a classroom, there is something for everyone to learn and take away from this session!

Nature Writing, Environmental Literature & Field Experiences

Molly Murfee

ENVS 520; 2 credits; Early Bird Discount Price \$228; Full Price \$380, + \$15 Fee

M 6/9-W 6/11

Audience: All levels & types of educators

Get philosophical and creative out in the woods in this stimulating and active field-based environmental literature and nature writing course! First, explore the effective writing techniques of creative non-fiction authors focused on nature and the environment. Then, experiment with creative writing and the field experience as inspiring tools for gathering information, processing emotions, and finding a constructive, energizing and motivating outlet for interacting with the complex environmental issues of our time. Approaches covered are useful in fostering skills of critical thinking, observation and research; exploring descriptive, narrative, persuasive and poetic writing techniques; and experimenting with writing that stirs emotion, appreciation and action. Learn to incorporate the subject matter through experiential education, student-centered learning and interdisciplinary studies into a traditional classroom. Each class is a full-day immersion into wilderness and includes freewriting exercises, author discussions, and independent research. While perfect for secondary educators in English, composition and the natural sciences, techniques can be applied to most any subject and age group.

Spanish Language Learning

Karen Immerso

EDUC 520; 2 credits; Early Bird Discount Price \$228; Full Price \$380

M 6/9-W 6/11

Audience: Secondary 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 and the use of verbs and verb tenses, enhance listening and comprehension skills, and practice communicating within this very interactive learning environment. This offering also models the curricular use of experiential learning activities for culturally and linguistically diverse classroom situations. Intended for never-ever Spanish language learners and those who want a basic review in the language, the class is designed for those eager to build confidence speaking Spanish. As well, it will inspire an ongoing commitment to one's continued use and learning of Spanish. This course will help to support the completion of CDE's ELPD renewal requirement.

Session IV: Thursday 6/12 - Saturday 6/14

Beyond Dirt: The Ecology of Soil

Jennie DeMarco, Ph.D.

ENVS 520; 2 credits; Early Bird Discount Price \$228; Full Price \$380, + \$10 fee

Th 6/12-Sat 6/14

Audience: Primarily secondary, but applicable to all levels

This course will dig up knowledge to understand how what lies beneath our feet supports life. It will focus on different aspects of soil structure and how that structure influences soil function and overall health. Teachers will learn how to measure basic soil health parameters and compare and contrast different soil types found in Colorado. Using a combination of short lectures, participant presentations, hands-on learning activities, and class discussions, participants will gain a knowledge base for the functioning of soil as an integrated system. The course will also incorporate an introduction to soil conservation policies and discuss the implications of poor soil health management on social and economic systems. This course takes a unique interdisciplinary approach to teaching soil science and conservation topics by integrating art, literature, and social systems with science to explore important soil topics. Participants will be provided with lesson plans, activities, and additional resources that can be readily adapted to their classroom. Although this course is primarily for secondary grades the instructor will provide examples and resources for how this course topic can be adapted to elementary grades.

Engaging with Assets Pedagogies through *Abbott Elementary*

Casey Richardson, Ph.D.

EDUC 520; 2 credits; Early Bird Discount Price \$228; Full Price \$380

Th 6/12-Sat 6/14

Audience: All levels & types of educators

Grounded in the hit mockumentary, *Abbott Elementary*, this book-turned-TV-club education course is designed for participants to collectively engage in critical discussions related to schooling a.k.a. their own lives! The 3-day course will be organized around the topics such as: accountability, community/family/parent involvement, funding, leadership and discipline styles, self-care strategies, technology, tracking, as well as frameworks such as colorblindness/evasiveness. Participants will engage in assets-based pedagogies (e.g., [culturally responsive teaching](#) and culturally sustaining pedagogy), which have been promoted by the Colorado Department of Education and other institutions/organizations as 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 students, yet educators skilled in assets-based pedagogies benefit every student even in seemingly homogenous

schools or classrooms. Drawing upon scenes and episodes of *Abbott Elementary*, this course will cover how to set an inclusive, welcoming environment and high expectations; how to develop critical consciousness; and how to counter dominant narratives and colorism. Participants can count this course's hours toward the Colorado Department of Education's English learner PD requirements/standards for license renewal.

Exploring the Science, History and Art of Silk Painting, Encaustic Collage and Felted Fibers

Rain Bodine

EDUC 520; 2 credits; Early Bird Discount Price \$228; Full Price \$380, + \$20 fee

Th 6/12-Sat 6/14

Audience: All levels & types of educators

This course invites K-12 educators to explore the rich tapestry of art-making through the lens of History and Science. Participants will delve into the origins and methodologies of silk resist painting, the transformative properties of encaustic wax, and the ancient craft of felt-making using natural fibers. This course emphasizes hands-on learning and encourages educators to integrate these techniques into their curricula, fostering creativity and interdisciplinary connections in their classrooms. Each day, students will experiment with one of these mediums, culminating in the creation of fully developed examples that reflect both personal expression and educational potential. No previous experience or art background required!

The course also offers a unique opportunity for educators to connect historical and scientific contexts to the art-making process. By examining silk resist painting, participants can explore its origins from ancient cultures, such as the use of ikat techniques in Southeast Asia and the Middle East, and how these traditions can be adapted for modern classrooms. The study of encaustic wax involves understanding the chemical properties of the materials, including how heat transforms the wax and pigment, allowing for innovative approaches to layering and texture in art. Additionally, the craft of felt-making not only connects to art but also ties into lessons about natural fibers, sustainability, and the science of textiles. Throughout the course, educators engage in hands-on projects that culminate in robust artworks, enabling them to model creative expression and interdisciplinary learning in their classrooms.

From Story to Practice: Literacy for CLD Learners

Karen Hausdoerffer & Rita Merrigan

EDUC 520; 2 credits; Early Bird Discount Price \$228; Full Price \$380

M 6/9-W 6/11

Audience: All levels & types of educators

This course focuses on the power of story as a basis for literacy instruction and for creating a welcoming space for all, particularly Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CLD) learners. The course offers hands-on strategies to make literacy fun and engaging for kids of all ages and backgrounds. Participants will take part in storytelling activities that can be adapted to various teaching contexts. You will sample diverse literature and share ideas on how to integrate more diverse literature into the classroom. Participants will try out games, classroom structures, discussion formats, art projects, and theatre games to enliven literature for CLD students. You will bring their own ideas for adapting these strategies to each unique learning setting. Everyone should come willing to move around, laugh, act, take risks, share and have fun together. This course will help to support the completion of CDE's ELPD renewal requirement.

Outdoor Citizenry: Engagement, Skills, Connection & LNT

Molly Murfee

ENVS 520; 2 credits; Early Bird Discount Price \$228; Full Price \$380, + \$15 Fee

Th 6/12-Sat 6/14

Audience: All levels & types of educators

Become an engaged, connected steward of nature and teach others to be the same! Through daily hiking excursions, acquire outdoor skills for safe and ethical backcountry travel, including Leave No Trace (LNT) principles. Additionally nurture a relationship to place by learning natural history and plant and animal identification, and relaxing into connection to nature activities on the trail. Any participant looking to: connect to nature for self-rejuvenation; learn outdoor skills for personal fulfillment; or teach these same to students, find inspiration here. Outdoor skills include: learning the perfect equipment to bring in a daypack; what a first aid kit should contain; confidence in navigation and reading maps, and more. Additionally tucked inside this course is a Leave No Trace Awareness Workshop. Here, participants learn to reduce physical impacts on the landscape through: proper trail etiquette; choosing the best lunch sites; preserving flora and fauna; “toilet” practices; dealing with trash; preserving water quality, and more. Throughout the course, participants actively work with field guides to identify flora and fauna, as well as engage in meditation, journaling, and creative writing activities for connecting to nature. Each day includes hiking, journaling and meditation, practice teaching activities in the four focus areas (LNT, outdoor skills, natural history, and nature connection), and independent research. At the end of this field-based course participants receive a “Leave No Trace Outdoor Awareness Certificate,” as well as a treasure chest full of LNT, outdoor skills, and connecting to nature activities to subsequently share with students.

Rivers as Your Classroom

Sarah Johnson

ENVS 520; 2 credits; Early Bird Discount Price \$228; Full Price \$380, +\$20 Fee

Th 6/12-Sat 6/14

Audience: All levels & types of educators

Learn how to integrate rivers and riparian habitat and the complexities of western watersheds into your curriculum through cross-curricular field and classroom learning observing phenomenon, authentic explorations, discussions, and reflection routines. Students will dive into cutting edge earth systems explorations, contribute to the international MacroBlitz aquatic insect project, learn about remote sensing in remote places with GLOBE by collecting critical change over time data for NASA science, and better understand water equity and inequity across Colorado. Students will consider how to teach the process of science through the lens and context of their local rivers and streams where they live and work. Course 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 protocols.

Wellness for Self and in Classroom

Angela Carroll

EDUC 520; 2 credits; Early Bird Discount Price \$228; Full Price \$380, +\$10 Fee

Th 6/12-Sat 6/14

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 about 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: Online Courses

Building Bridges: Connecting Trauma Awareness and Behavior Strategies in Education

Leia Henaghan

EDUC 520; 2 credits; Full Price \$380

June 15-August 4

Audience: All levels & types of educators

Unlock the potential of your classroom with this transformative course, designed to meet the license renewal requirements of HB 20-1128 and HB 20-1312 for Colorado teachers and administrators. This course equips you with tools to create inclusive, culturally responsive, and trauma-informed learning environments that support all students, especially those with disabilities. You'll explore how trauma affects student behavior, learning, and brain development while gaining insights into diverse student profiles. Reflective practices and hands-on strategies will help you manage sensory triggers, reframe negative thinking, and foster a safer, more supportive classroom.

The course introduces the basics of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA), including reinforcement, punishment, and shaping behaviors. You'll master the four functions of behavior; escape, attention, access to tangibles, and sensory stimulation and learn how to apply the ABC framework to tailor interventions. Practical strategies like behavior contracts, group contingencies, and response cost systems will help you promote positive behavior and create a thriving classroom. With resources like the "Teacher Toolbox" and excerpts from the ABA Visualized guidebook, you'll leave this course ready to implement evidence-based strategies that ensure success for all students. Don't miss this opportunity to enhance your teaching and transform your classroom!

Retreat, Reflect, Renew: Creative Modes of Reflective Learning for Teachers and Students

Melanie Reaves, Ph.D.

EDUC 520; 2 credits; Full Price \$380

June 15-August 5

Audience: All levels & types of educators

Reflection is essential to learning. This course covers theory, research, and evidence-based methods for learning by reflecting on experiences. Reflective practices, such as journaling, thinking through metaphors, and collaboration will serve as pathways for learning techniques involving multi-genre writing, conversation, and arts-based meaning-making (no previous art experience necessary). Teachers will leave having had time to synthesize theory and research in connection with their practice (retreat), create a collection of insights into their own teaching and learning (reflect), and develop a set of techniques to use with their students to teach them how to engage in reflective learning (renew)

Who Gets to Tell the Story of Water?

Sarah Johnson

ENVS 520; 1 credit; Full Price \$190

June 17-26

Audience: All levels & types of educators

In this virtual course, students will engage in action research to identify and share solutions for water equity issues in Colorado. Through storytelling and narratives about water in the region, students will explore their personal relationship with water and equity. The course will incorporate the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, along with insights from social science, historical perspectives, geographic tools, and diverse viewpoints. This comprehensive approach will enable students to develop a deeper understanding of water issues in Colorado over time. Using this context, students will craft and tell their own unique water stories to share. Key focus areas include health factors, community well-being, impacts on local communities, identifying causes of water-related challenges, and understanding how to influence positive change. Utilizing a learning guide from the Smithsonian Science Education Center's Science for Global Goals, students will have access to free, classroom-ready tools to facilitate their investigations into water and environmental issues. The course includes both self-paced activities and four virtual meetings over a two-week period. Virtual meetings will be interactive and engaging, relying on group participation for discussions and activities. Students will need to set up and use the following tools: Canvas LMS, Google Drive, a free educator account on Miro (register using a .edu email), and a free Padlet account. Full participation and engagement during virtual meetings are expected; participating from a smartphone while in transit will not be adequate.

Session: Field Courses

Guatemala Immersion for Educators

Steve Foster

EDUC 520; 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 6-19, 2025. Cost of course (including travel, etc) 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, 2025. Registration through Western is for credit only.