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ONLINE: Spanish for Educators

"This online course was a good preview for having Spanish speaking students in the classroom and how to accommodate them."

– Don G.

A classroom is a place where all students must feel accepted and involved. Non-Spanish speaking teachers may need to make an extra effort to involve Spanish-speaking students in the classroom. Learning to communicate with students in their language is one way to generate involvement and help students to feel confident in the classroom.

This course, Spanish for Educators, is a primer for non-Spanish speaking teachers to help build communication with students and their families who speak Spanish as a first language. Teachers will be introduced to general vocabulary and phrases that assist with understanding the Spanish language in the classroom as well as throughout a school environment. The course is rich in activities, tools, strategies, and templates that may be customized for individual use (including a pronunciation guide for conferences with parents and telephone scripts). There are recordings with Spanish words, phrases, and conversations that enable teachers to read and pronounce Spanish words correctly so they can be understood.

Standards:

This course aligns to the INTASC Standards including Learner Development, Learning Differences, Learning Environments, Planning for Instruction and Instructional Strategies.

It also aligns to the McRel Teacher Evaluation Standards including Teacher Leadership, Diverse Learners, Teachers Know Content and Teachers Facilitate Learning.

Each online PD course includes:

- **Convenient access** anytime, anywhere, any device
- Interactive **online** textbook
- Implement **practical suggestions** immediately
- Demonstrate comprehension with **quizzes** and checks for understanding
- Print **certificates** of completion
- Easily assign courses to align with each teacher's **personalized PD needs**
- **Integrate** with school and district-wide initiatives
- **Low cost solution for all courses, all teachers, all school year**
- **Reports** for school administrators

Course Outline

LESSON 1: Introduction

- Exploring the similarities and differences between English and Spanish, including word origins, grammar, pronunciation, and so on
- Understanding and practicing the composition of the Spanish alphabets and the pronunciations for each
- Learning sounds that, though eliminated from the alphabet, are still crucial to knowing the Spanish language
- Examine the intricacies of Spanish syllables and cultural trends for names

LESSON 2: Greetings

- Learning common Spanish greetings for situations teachers are likely to encounter, and the right occasion to use them
- Effective ways to give instructions and appropriate responses
- Typical cultural phrases to wish people well in different circumstances

LESSON 3: Classroom Environment

- Using Spanish phrases, key words and comments successfully in the classroom to benefit students' behavior and overall responses
- Identifying practical situations to practice the phrases learned outside the classroom
- Exploring common mistakes native English speakers are likely to make while learning Spanish, and how to avoid making them
- Gaining an overview of Spanish slang in order to minimize classroom disruptions

LESSON 4: Parent Partnerships and Communications

- Learning how to use a 'call script' to speak to parents on the telephone, and situations where this is useful
- Useful tips on how to prepare for conferences with parents
- Quick question words to have on hand that could be useful while directing conversations outside the classroom