



TEACHING HOW TO LEARN: DEVELOPING COGNITIVE COMPETENCIES Level III Course Syllabus 2021

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will help participants expand their ability to incorporate cognitive function development within the National Institute for Learning Development Canada's (NILD) Educational Therapy™ techniques, effectively implement mediated learning experiences, and develop language competencies in students. Candidates will continue to explore the usage of psychological and educational assessments that reveal patterns of cognitive strengths and weaknesses. Candidates will gain a comprehensive understanding of NILD's Level I and II techniques. This course combines four weeks of online coursework with one (or more) weeks of digital classroom instruction.

COURSE PREREQUISITIES

1. Successful completion of Levels I & II training.
2. Completion of 160 student contact hours between Levels II and III.
3. Maintain yearly registration and licensing.
4. Attendance at NILD Canada's Conference and/or workshops.
5. Observation of a live therapy session (Level III) and/or viewed one posted on the NILD Canada members' only section of the website.
6. Two letters of reference from a school administrator, program coordinator, parent of a current student or teacher of a recent student.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

This course will build upon prior knowledge and equip the educational therapist to more effectively implement NILD techniques. Specifically, upon successful completion of this course, the educational therapist will be able to:

1. **Evaluate** the five core techniques according to the tenets of Cognitive Functions.
2. **Demonstrate** competency in the NILD Educational Therapy techniques while providing student specific intervention for learning deficits.
3. **Implement** language competencies for student development of reading comprehension and written expression.
4. **Incorporate** cognitive function in conjunction with NILD Educational Therapy™ techniques.
5. **Determine** student cognitive functions and dysfunctions through diagnostic and prescriptive competency data.

6. **Refine** questioning skills to stimulate oral language.
7. **Scaffold** the skills of pacing, transition, and application of mediated learning to build competence and confidence for student learning.
8. **Articulate** the theoretical constructs that underlie NILD Educational Therapy™.

COURSE POLICIES & PROCEDURES

Carefully follow course policies and procedures regarding writing, submission of assignments, formatting, and other matters, as specified here.

Writing:

All papers and essays must follow the writing style format required by the degree specialty for which they are being written. The writing style to be used in this course is APA.

Attendance and Participation:

Full participation in all activities and assignments is expected including attendance at all digital residency classes.

Online Coursework (four weeks prior to residency):

- Order course materials (see below) in advance of online course.
- Select a student with whom to practice techniques as they are learned.
- Have a chalkboard available for practice sessions (can be portable or tripod).
- Practice techniques and complete reading assignments as assigned.
- Complete reaction papers that require a personal response to the information read.
- Contribute to online discussions weekly.

Digital Residency/Classroom Coursework (Digital Residency week – 8 days):

- Work with a partner practicing and refining NILD Educational Therapy techniques.
- Complete evening assignments.
- Complete the final course assignment.

Assignments:

Pay close and timely attention to reading assignments and other assigned work posted in the syllabus and Blackbaud. You are responsible for preparing assigned readings carefully by the date listed on the schedule below and to complete tests, projects, and other assignments by Thursday at midnight for online sessions and by the day listed for the digital residency week. Late assignments will be penalized.

Course Completion/Incompletes:

All courses require extensive engagement (with other students, the instructor, and with the course materials) as well as timely completion of assignments. Assignments are due weekly for the online portion and daily for residency portion. Thus, keeping up with the schedule is essential to your success. Some work is difficult or even impossible to make up (such as discussion with others), so you must plan your schedule carefully. Be sure you can complete this course in the scheduled period. Grades of “Incomplete” will be granted only for true emergency situations, not for poor planning.

Training Requirements for NILD Professionally Certified Educational Therapist (PCET):

The first step in a three-step process to becoming a Professionally Certified Educational Therapist is to take the NILD Level I course. Those trained in the NILD model will be considered Educational Therapist interns until successful completion of Level II training. All Educational Therapists are encouraged to continue their training at a Level II course within three years of taking Level I. Level II training is the second step in the process. Level III is the final step and must be completed within 3 years of completing Level II. Upon successful completion of the Level III course, therapists are considered a Professionally Certified Educational Therapist. To maintain this certification, specific expectations are required. These are outlined in our policies and procedures.

NILD Registration/Licensure:

All Canadian therapists are required to register with NILD Canada yearly. ***The registration year runs from October 1 - September 30.*** Upon successful completion of the Level III course you will automatically become an NILD Canada Professionally Certified Educational Therapist licensed to use the NILD materials and methodology. Other membership benefits include discounts on NILD Canada Conferences and workshops, access to our NILD Facebook closed group, a listing on NILD Canada's Find a Therapist page on the website, and more. To remain an active NILD Professionally Certified Educational Therapist, you must complete the yearly PCET registration form, license agreement, and pay the yearly registration fee. Enrollment in the Level III course will include registration for ONE year, but you will need to renew your registration the following year. ***Participants from other countries will need to follow their country's membership/registration requirements.***

REQUIRED AND SUPPLEMENTAL RESOURCES

The following resources are available for purchase from The Learning House (1-866-875-5550 or www.learninghouse.ca):

1. **Speech to Print, Language Essentials for Teachers**, 2nd Edition (2010). Louise Cook Moats, Ed. D. (if not already obtained previously)
2. **Teaching How to Learn in a What to Learn Culture** (if not already obtained previously)
3. **Wordly Wise 3000 Student Book 6** - 3rd Edition
4. **Technique Materials Level III: (order each separately)**
 - A. Analogies 1
 - B. Analogies 2
 - C. Sounds of Meaning
 - D. Mediating Math (if not already previously obtained)
 - E. A complete set of 4 Mediating Math Student Workbooks (Supplements to Mediating Math): Number Patterns; Calculations and Estimations; Fractions, Decimals and Percents; Measurement. (if not already previously obtained)
 - F. Tangram Cards
 - G. Listen Carefully (optional) this is replacing Listen My Children

The following textbook (s) are available on Amazon.ca.

1. [*Mediated Learning, Teaching, Tasks, and Tools to Unlock Cognitive Potential*](#), 2nd Edition, Mentis & Dunn-Bernstein, Corwin Press, ISBN: 978-1-4129-5070-1

2. [*Educational Therapy in Action: Behind and Beyond the Office Door*](#), 1st edition (2011), Dorothy Fink Ungerleider. ISBN: 978-0-415-88885-1

As an Amazon Associate, we earn from qualifying purchases

Course Manual:

You will print the course manual one portion at a time as you proceed through the four weeks of online coursework. By the end of the four weeks, you will have printed the entire course manual. It is especially important that you keep your manual organized in a convenient binder. We recommend a 3" three-ring binder to contain the pages of your course manual, notes, and other relevant documents. Your course manual will become a vital resource for you, and you must bring it to residency. Additional materials (e.g., PowerPoint files, quizzes, media, and the like) may be found on Blackbaud. Students are responsible for the information and materials distributed through Blackbaud, and in class.

Materials needed for digital residency:

- **Course manual**
- *Mediated Learning, Teaching, Tasks, and Tools to Unlock Cognitive Potential*, 2nd Edition (2008)
- *Wordly Wise 3000 Student Book 6*
- *Analogies 1*
- *Analogies 2*
- *The Blue Book Method: An Associate Key Word Approach*
- *Phonics Spelling Workbook*
- *Sounds of Meaning*
- *Sounds of Reading*
- *Sounds of Language*
- Chalkholder & chalk
- *Listen My Children and/or Listen Carefully (optional)*
- *Bloom's Taxonomy Flip Chart*
- Square Puzzles (cards)
- Design Tiles (cards)
- Design Tile puzzle pieces (plastic)
- Pythagoras puzzle pieces (wooden)
- Pythagoras pages and Tangram Pages
- *Mediating Math and Mediating Math Student Workbooks (4)*
- Techniques sections from the Level I and II manuals

METHOD OF EVALUATING STUDENT PERFORMANCE

The final grade for the course will reflect mastery of course content as well as the quality of thought expressed in the following assignment categories:

- Distance Assignments – 35%
- Theoretical Constructs (research project) – 15%
- Class Participation – 10%
- Technique Proficiency – 40%

Distance Assignments – 35%

There are five papers, three additional assignments, and four Knowledge Surveys. The “Class Participation” grade consists of Discussion Board participation and residency participation. Grades are determined using a scale of 0 – 100 for each assignment. The instructor will record participant’s grades in the Blackbaud grade center. Individual assignment scores are automatically weighted according to the percentages reflected on the course syllabus to determine a participant’s final grade. Participants may view their grades in Blackbaud at any time during the course. (Please note: grades are required to be inputted into the Blackbaud grade center for all participants regardless of whether they are seeking graduate credit or not. Grades for the Knowledge Surveys are automatically entered by Blackbaud and the course instructor manually enters in Blackbaud grades for all other assignments.)

- Hopkins paper (week 1) – 6% (100 points)
- Moats Morpheme Paper (week 3) – 5% (100 points)
- Math Reflection paper (week 4) --- 5% (100 points)
- Info Processing pages (week 1) – 5% (100 points)
- Linking Cognitive Functions to Assessment Response (week 2) – 5% (100 points)
- Theoretical Constructs Research Draft (Week 3) – 5% (100 points)
- Weekly **Knowledge Surveys** (4 total, 1% each) --- (100 points each) –Combined 4%

Theoretical Constructs Research Project (100 points) – 15%

Course Participation – 10%

- Discussion Board participation – 5% (100 points)
- Digital Residency participation – 5% (100 points)

Technique proficiency (100 points) – 40%

GRADING SCALE

Grade	Percentage Score Range	Quality Points	Rationale & Meaning of Grade
A	97---100%	4.00	Superior work in all areas as indicated in the instructor's written expectations. Exemplary performance, participation, creativity, and writing.
A-	93---96%	3.67	Excellent work overall but may be lacking in relation to some aspect of the instructor's expectations. Excellent content in writing assignments.
B+	89---92%	3.33	Good work in most areas, minor deficiency in relation to the instructor's expectations regarding content, standard writing style, or procedures. Good content but lacking in some areas.
B	85---88%	3.00	Good work in most areas, minor deficiency in relation to the instructor's expectations regarding content, standard writing style, or procedures. Attention to detail may have significantly improved the project.
B-	81---84%	2.67	Fair work in most areas: serious disregard of assignment specifications or standard writing style and procedures. Attention to written instructions may have significantly improved the project.
C+	77---80%	2.33	Passing work but in serious need of improvement in many areas, especially regarding form, content, and instructor's expectations.
C	73---76%	2.00	Passing work, but in serious need of improvement in many areas, especially regarding form, content, and assignment specifications; below professional quality standards.
F	<73%	0	Failing; minimal conformity to instructor's expectations; not master's quality work; requires repeat of the course and meeting with the professor and advisor.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

This course will not discriminate against an otherwise qualified student with a disability in the admissions process, or any academic activity or program, including student-oriented services. Regent University and/or NILD Canada will provide reasonable accommodation to the known physical and mental limitations of a qualified individual with a disability, unless to do so would impose an undue hardship on the operation of the university, or unless it would fundamentally alter a degree or course requirements.

DISTANCE LEARNING COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

Week One: Teaching How to Learn

- Read: Teaching How to Learn in a What to Learn Culture; Educational Therapy in Action textbook
- Lecture: Brain 101, Information Processing and First Year Student
- Assignment: Reflection Paper based on Teaching How to Learn in a What to Learn Culture and Information Processing Reflections
- Complete: Knowledge Survey and Discussion Board Question

Week Two: Mediation & Cognitive Functions

- Read: Mediated Learning, Teaching, Tasks, and Tools to Unlock Cognitive Potential; Autism Spectrum Disorder by Jon Mason, M.D; Testing the Waters with an Adult Stroke Victim by Carole Adams, M.Ed.; and Analogical Reasoning & Proverb Comprehension by Gail Collins, Ed.D.
- Lectures: Mediated Learning Lecture, Developing Cognitive Functions, and Linking Assessment to Practice Lectures
- Assignment: Psychoeducational Testing and Cognitive Functions
- Complete: Knowledge Survey and Discussion Board Question and Educational Therapy in Action paper

Week Three: Theorist and Reading

- Read: Speech to Print and Articles: “Questioning: Vygotsky’s Social Development Theory” by Joni Hanna, M.Ed.; Theories of Learning: Implications for Teaching” by Janet Lerner & Beverly Johns; “Teaching Handwriting”; “Composition: Evidence---Based Instruction”
- Lectures: Morphology and Education Theories
- Watch: Oral Reading, Above Level Reading, Grammar, and Sounds of Meaning videos
- Assignment: Speech to Print paper and Theoretical Constructs Research Project
- Complete: Knowledge Survey and Discussion Board Question

Week Four: Mediating Math, Pythagoras and Tangrams

- Read: Math Block: A Strong Conceptual Foundation for Mathematical Reasoning, A Study on the Effect of Interactive Language in the Stimulation of Cognitive Functions for Students with Learning Disabilities” by Kathy Hopkins, Ed.D; “Pythagoras and Tangrams”; “Voices Heard in Educational Therapy an Analytic Description of Questions Asked and Answered” by Sue Hutchison, Ed.D.; “Effects of National Institute for Learning Development Educational Therapy for Students with Learning Differences” by Kathy Keafer, Ed.D.; “An Analysis of Rx for Discovery Reading® for Elementary Students Below Grade Level in Reading” by Susan Stanley, Ed.D.; “Small Group Versus 1 on 1 Educational Therapy for Struggling Readers and Writers” by Connie Cawthorne, Ed.D.
- Lectures: Mediating Math
- Watch: Tangrams video
- Complete: Knowledge Survey and Discussion Board Question, Theoretical Constructs and Information Processing Reflections