



TEACHING HOW TO LEARN: DEVELOPING COGNITIVE COMPETENCIES Level III Course Syllabus 2023

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course serves to develop a foundational methodology for training students on how to learn by strengthening current cognitive systems to greater efficiency. The result for students in National Institute of Learning Development (NILD) Educational Therapy™ is significantly higher cognitive, academic, perceptual, and emotional functioning. Candidates will explore the usage of psychological and educational assessment, discovering real patterns of cognitive strengths and weakness. Candidates will gain a comprehensive understanding and utilization of the NILD Level I techniques. This course combines four weeks of online coursework with one week of classroom instruction.

This course will help participants expand their ability to incorporate cognitive function development within the National Institute for Learning Development (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 week of classroom instruction. Prerequisites: EDLD 515 & 520 (Level I and Level II).

If you did not take Level II or Cognitive Literacy training after May of 2022, you must also complete the work listed on page 2 of this document. You must also purchase the Gray Matter Therapist Kit here <https://nildus.myshopify.com/products/gray-matter-literacy-kit-therapist-1> in addition to the standard level III course materials kit and any other noted resources/materials.

If you DID NOT complete Level II or Cognitive Literacy training after May of 2022, you must complete the following activities on your own during your online coursework time. If the hyperlinks do not work, simply copy and paste the link into your URL or web browser. If you DID complete Level II or Cognitive Literacy training after May of 2022, please disregard this page unless you wish to review.

COURSE PREREQUISITIES

1. Successful completion of Levels I & II training (within the last 3 years)
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. Completion of WJIV training courses.

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 5 core techniques in the light of cognitive functions
2. **Demonstrate** competency in the Level II techniques
3. **Develop** vocabulary acquisition and application to enhance spelling, reading comprehension, and written expression
4. **Use** reading comprehension and written expression to develop language competencies in students
5. **Incorporate** cognitive function development within NILD educational therapy techniques
6. **Refine** diagnostic and prescriptive competency
7. **Refine** questioning skills to stimulate oral language
8. **Further** develop the skills of pacing, transitions, and application of mediated learning
9. **Articulate** an understanding of 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):

- Work with a partner practicing and refining NILD Educational Therapy technique.

- 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 Blackboard. You are responsible for preparing assigned readings carefully and to complete tests, projects, and other assignments by midnight on the dates specified by your instructor for the online session and by the day listed for residency week on the residency week assignment page.

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. **Technique Materials Level III: (order each separately)**
 - A. Analogies 1

- B. Analogies 2
- C. Gray Matter Literacy Kit: Therapist
 - Gray Matter Guide: Educator
 - Gray Matter Guide: Student
 - SOAR 1
 - SOAR 2
 - SOAR 3
 - Anchors Away Decks 1&2
 - Anchor Bingo Cards
 - Anchor Word Booklet
 - Anchor cards
 - Sound Box
 - Gray Matter Lesson Plans (Digital)
 - Memory Card booster pack
- D. Tangram Cards
- E. Listen Carefully (if not already purchased)
- F. Wordly Wise 3000 Student Book 6 - 3rd Edition

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. [Integrating social cognition in therapeutic practice: beneath and beyond the process of therapy](#), 1st edition.
3. [Multisensory Teaching of Basic Language Skills](#), 2nd Edition.

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 (Level 2 and Level 3)**
- *Mediated Learning, Teaching, Tasks, and Tools to Unlock Cognitive Potential*, 2nd Edition (2008)
- *Wordly Wise 3000 Student Book 6*
- *Analogies 1*
- *Analogies 2*
- *Gray Matter Therapist Kit*
 - *Gray Matter Guide: Educator*
 - *Gray Matter Guide: Student*

- SOAR 1
- SOAR 2
- SOAR 3
- Anchor Word Booklet
- Anchor Cards
- Anchor Away Decks 1&2
- Anchor Bingo Cards
- Sound Box
- Lessons (digital)
- Chalk holder & chalk
- *Listen My Children and/or Listen Carefully (optional)*
- *Bloom's Taxonomy Flip Chart*
- Design Tiles (cards)
- Design Tile puzzle pieces (plastic)
- Pythagoras puzzle pieces (wooden)
- Tangram Pages and puzzles
- *Mediating Math and Mediating Math Student Workbooks (4)*
- Dictation & Copy book (C or D)
- Rhythmic Writing laminated cards
- Buzzer & Morse Code laminated card
- Chalk holder & chalk
- Additional materials (e.g., PowerPoint files, quizzes, median and the like) may be found on Blackbaud.

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:

- Online 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.)

Online Assignments – 35%

- Promoting Diversity and Excellence (week 1) – 6% (100 points)
- Theoretical Constructs Research Draft (Week 1) – 6% (100 points)
- Student Success Plan with Partner – (Week 2) – 7% (100 points)
- Morpheme Paper – (Week 3) – 6% (100 points)
- Math Reflection Paper – (Week 4) – 6% (100 points)
- Weekly Knowledge Surveys (4 total, 1% each) --- (100 points each)

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	Rationale & Meaning of Grade
A	94---100%	Superior work in all areas as indicated in the instructor's written expectations. Exemplary performance, participation, creativity, and writing.
A-	90---93%	Excellent work overall but may be lacking in relation to some aspect of the instructor's expectations. Excellent content in writing assignments.
B+	84---89%	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	80---83%	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.
C+	74---79%	Passing work but in serious need of improvement in many areas, especially regarding form, content, and instructor's expectations.
C	70---73%	Passing work, but in serious need of improvement in many areas, especially regarding form, content, and assignment specifications; below professional quality standards.

F	<70%	Failing; minimal conformity to instructor's expectations; not master's quality work; requires repeat of the course and meeting with the professor and advisor.
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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.