

Syllabus: Project-Based Learning: Connecting Classrooms to the Real World

Project-Based Learning: Connecting Classrooms to the Real World offers teachers a convincing argument for implementing PBL in their classrooms to promote success in academia, in future professions, and in life. Teachers will be equipped with practical tools and resources to take steps toward, or even fully dive into, a research-proven more satisfying and effective way to teach.

This is a 3 credit course which includes course reading, watching of videos, completing of assignments, reflection, practice, interacting with fellow participants, sharing with colleagues, and applying your new learning.

Educators will find that this course gives a refreshing perspective to commonly taught topics. You will come away with a very strong handle on how to connect topics you teach to the real world and answer the question that every student has: "How does this relate to my life?"

The outline of the course is as follows:

Unit I: The Research Behind Project-Based Learning

- Lesson 1: What is Project-Based Learning?
- Lesson 2: Why Project-Based Learning?
- Lesson 3: Project-Based Learning, CCSS, and Standards for the Teaching Profession
- Lesson 4: Project-Based Learning and Research-Based Effective Models of Education
- Lesson 5: Project-Based Learning: Raising Rigor
- Lesson 6: Project-Based Learning and Bloom's Taxonomy
- Lesson 7: Project-Based Learning: Meeting the Needs of Diverse Learners
- Lesson 8: What Project-Based Learning is NOT

Unit II: Essential Elements of Project-Based Learning

- Lesson 9: Significant Content
- Lesson 10: 21st Century Competencies
- Lesson 11: In-Depth Inquiry
- Lesson 12: The Driving Question
- Lesson 13: Need to Know/Authenticity
- Lesson 14: Student Voice/Choice
- Lesson 15: Revision & Reflection
- Lesson 16: Public Audience

Unit III: Project-Based Learning in and across Disciplines



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Lesson 17: Designing Discipline-Specific Project Assignments: English Language Arts Lesson 18: Designing Discipline-Specific Project Assignments: Social Studies/History Lesson 19: Designing Discipline-Specific Project Assignments: Science Lesson 20: Designing Discipline-Specific Project Assignments: Math Lesson 21: Designing Integrated-Disciplinary Project Assignments

Unit IV: Practical Steps and Principles, with Technology Usage for Project-Based Learning Assignments

Lesson 22: Managing the Process

Lesson 23: Designing High-Quality Rubrics

Lesson 24: Technology and PBL

Lesson 25: Building New Knowledge

Lesson 26: Adding Special Touches: Dedication to Celebration

Lesson 27: Common Hurdles to PBL and Tips for Overcoming Them

Unit V: Course Wrap-Up

Lesson 28: Conclusion/Final Project Final Forms/Course Evaluation