



# Storytelling in Teaching

## Course Syllabus

### Course Description

Formal education is facing a new and serious threat: competition. Technology has ushered in a new era that literally provides a world of information at our fingertips. And it does so in a way that is winning-over learners. How? Storytelling. Yes, the modern competition that traditional education faces is winning the attention of our students because it taps into one of the most ancient human traits - our interest in hearing a compelling story.

Grant Sanderson (of 3Blue1Brown). Brady Haran (of Numberphile). Simone Giertz. Michael Stevens (better known as Vsauce). Neil Degrasse Tyson. Why will children who can barely focus in class watch complex content from these educators for hours on end? Because they understand the craft of storytelling. And this realization is not confined to popular culture. For a decade now, organizations from Edutopia to the American Educational Research Association to the Harvard Business Review have been encouraging educators to embrace the craft of storytelling.

It is time. Learn how content can be presented as story. Learn how to draw students into a compelling world that engages their curiosity and passion. Learn the craft of Storytelling in Teaching.

### Course Objectives

At the end of this course you should be able to:

1. Explain the psychological, sociological, and neurological impacts of storytelling by identifying how storytelling affects the brain, behavior, and social dynamics.
2. Identify common elements of storytelling, the principles of the "story circle" and "show, don't tell," and simple ways to incorporate storytelling into instructional practice.
3. Analyze the concepts of myth and allegory.
4. Recognize and utilize the concept of narrative transportation.
5. Recognize the presence and purpose of archetypes and tropes.
6. Analyze the theory of narrative and story.
7. Identify the storytelling techniques used by popular contemporary communicators.
8. Integrate storytelling into your teaching.

### Modules

- Module 1: Foundations of Storytelling, Quiz 1
- Module 2: Basics of Storytelling, Quiz 2
- Module 3: Myth and Allegory, Quiz 3
- Module 4: Narrative Transportation, Quiz 4
- Module 5: Archetypes and Tropes, Quiz 5



- Module 6: Narrative and Story Theory, Quiz 6
- Module 7: Contemporary Techniques, Quiz 7
- Module 8: Storytelling Integration, Quiz 8

**Grading:**

Each quiz must be passed at an 80% or higher (three attempts allowed).

**Format**

This is a self-paced, asynchronous (no required live meetings) course. Throughout the PD course, you will find it helpful to take notes along the way to assist with the quizzes. Within each module, you will find reflection assessments that are not graded but will help in your journey through the course.