



# Exploring Adult Learning Principles for Teacher and Administration Application

## Course Syllabus

### Course Description

The purpose of this professional development course is to recognize that learning is the acquisition of information, knowledge, and skills. The process of learning is an ongoing process that takes place throughout life, formally in the classroom, and informally through experience. In this course, you will explore the assumptions of adult learning theory, the principles of practice, and investigate the differences between pedagogy and andragogy. Practical strategies and methods of application will be offered, with approaches for modifications.

This course enhances classroom teaching effectiveness and supports improved student outcomes by introducing new knowledge in adult learning theory, learning psychology, and practical applications of andragogical principles to enhance instruction for both student and educator development.

### Course Objectives

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

1. Identify the fundamental tenets of adult learning theory and practice.
2. Identify the key elements of adult development theory.
3. Identify key elements of constructivism, social cognitive theory, and cognitivism.
4. Identify key elements of behaviorism, humanism, and transformative learning.
5. Identify key elements of McClusky's Theory of Margin and how that theory relates to motivation toward learning and personalized learning.
6. Identify the key elements and benefits of metacognition, reflection, and transformative learning.
7. Identify key elements in creating self-directed and engaging work for middle school and high school students.
8. Identify key elements in effective teacher professional development.

### Modules

- Module 1: Understanding Andragogy, Quiz 1
- Module 2: Understanding Adult Development, Quiz 2
- Module 3: Exploring Traditional Learning Theories: Constructivism, Social Cognitive Theory, Cognitivism, Quiz 3
- Module 4: More Exploration of Learning Theories: Behaviorism, Humanism, and Transformative Learning, Quiz 4



- Module 5: McClusky's Theory of Margin, Motivation for Learning, and Personalized Experiential Learning, Quiz 5
- Module 6: Metacognition, Reflection, and Transformative Learning, Quiz 6
- Module 7: Adult Learning Concepts Applied in Middle School & High School, Quiz 7
- Module 8: Adult Learning Practices for Educator Professional Development, 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. There is an interactive forum in the course to help you connect with peers and instructors, share ideas, and collaborate on best practices throughout your learning journey.