What Every Teacher Should Know About ADHD

Course Syllabus

Course Description

Based on the high frequency of Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), educators will likely have at least one student with ADHD per class, if not more. Few educators receive training on this neurological disorder, which can lead to great frustration among the teacher, student and student's parents. However, with insight into this condition, educators can unlock the superpowers of the ADHD brain and can greatly affect the student's learning experience and sense of self. The purpose of this course is to equip you as an educator to understand the ADHD brain and specific ADHD informed tools for affected students' social, emotional, and academic growth.

This course enhances classroom teaching effectiveness and supports improved student outcomes by introducing new knowledge in how to understand ADHD brain functioning and develop practical, evidence-informed strategies to support the academic, social, and emotional success of students with ADHD while fostering strong teacher-student and parent-teacher relationships.

Course Objectives

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

1. At the end of this module, you should be able to understand main features of ADHD brain functioning and symptoms in youth.
2. Teachers will understand the cognitive challenge of focusing with ADHD and gain tips for helping students focus and follow directions.
3. At the end of this module, you should be able to understand the specific learning challenges that ADHD learners face and be equipped with subject specific tools for your learners.
4. At the end of this module, you should be able to understand the features of ADHD that affect impulsive and other behaviors that interfere with learning, as well as strategies to work with these students that will increase their engagement with learning, your student-teacher relationship and their self-esteem.
5. At the end of this module, you should be able to understand the unique challenges of ADHD and organization and time management, as well as effective strategies for students with ADHD to stay organized and time-aware.
6. At the end of this module, you should be able to understand how ADHD brains are uniquely motivated and what you can do to work with your students with ADHD to build self-esteem and emotional control.

7. At the end of this module, you should be able to understand the unique challenges of homework for an ADHD learner, as well as effective ways to set up these students for success on independent work.
8. At the end of this module, you should be able to have practical takeaways for strengthening the parent-teacher relationship and a variety of accommodations for ADHD that truly work.

Modules

- Module 1: Understanding ADHD– Discovering Truth about the Highly Misunderstood Disorder, Quiz 1
- Module 2: Focusing and Following Directions, Quiz 2
- Module 3: Learning Challenges, Quiz 3
- Module 4: Addressing Behavior and Hyperactivity, Quiz 4
- Module 5: Executive Functioning: Organization & Time Management, Quiz 5
- Module 6: Motivation, Emotions and Self-Esteem, Quiz 6
- Module 7: Homework and Studying, Quiz 7
- Module 8: Accommodations and the Teacher-Parent Relationship, 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.