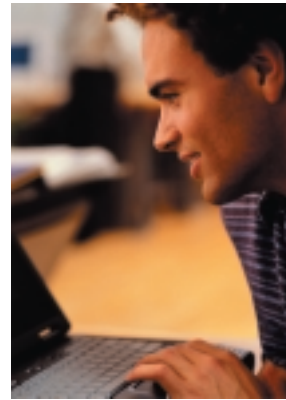


Graduate Course Descriptions

Effective Classroom Management™ Online*

*This course also goes by the title of Classroom Management.

Evaluate expectations for student behavior and learn practical strategies to increase student responsibility, self-control, and self-management. Learn how to create a proactive classroom environment that will allow you to spend the major part of your contact time in instructional activities, thus resulting in increased student learning.



Create a positive classroom climate

- Design the physical classroom environment.
- Establish teaching rules and routines.
- Appreciate the importance of the first days of school.

Minimize misbehavior

- Administer discipline with the brain in mind.
- Deal with misbehavior and consequences.

Develop effective strategies

- Utilize reflective practices to adjust classroom management strategies.
- Identify teacher and parent roles in promoting responsibility and learning.
- Recognize ways in which diverse populations affect classroom management.
- Understand learning styles and their application to classroom management.

Learning to Read: Beginning Reading Instruction™ Online

Learn to implement a balanced, integrated approach to teaching beginning reading centered on scientific strategies aligned with state and national reading research initiatives. These specially designed curriculum resources and teaching strategies will enhance the reading process across all areas of the curriculum. Teachers will have access to an interactive CD-ROM and other resources, to offer every student the opportunity to successfully learn to read.

Apply a balanced and integrated approach

- Teach phonemic decoding, comprehension strategies, and literature appreciation.
- Encourage independent reading using a variety of types of texts.
- Explore relationships among words to teach vocabulary.
- Use writing to foster greater understanding of text.

Develop effective practices for teaching reading proficiency skills

- Phonemic awareness
- Phonological awareness
- Decoding
- Fluency
- Comprehension

Prevent reading failure through intervention and assessment

- Screen students using informal assessments.
- Monitor students' progress.
- Establish an effective intervention system.



Purposeful Learning Through Multiple Intelligences® Online

Develop an understanding of Howard Gardner's intelligences and learn how to apply them in your classroom. View a multitude of Web sites, experience the intelligences personally, and create lesson plans you can use immediately. Engage in meaningful discussions with your course facilitator and fellow classmates through online forums and emails.

Understand the multiple intelligences

- Identify your own multiple intelligences profile.
- Understand how Gardner's research has identified the intelligences and the criteria upon which the intelligences are validated.
- Recognize how others express multiple intelligences.

Explore individual intelligences

- Identify the subcapacities (skill sets) of each of the multiple intelligences.
- Understand the full dimension of each of the intelligences by experiencing them through various activities.
- Identify instructional strategies used to enhance and support the multiple intelligences.

Incorporate the intelligences into your classroom

- Design lessons that integrate the multiple intelligences with course content.
- Learn how to support the multiple intelligences through aspects of your classroom environment.

Create schoolwide integration plans

- Understand the myths and realities of applying Multiple Intelligences Theory to classrooms.
- Integrate multiple intelligences with other reforms such as centers, portfolios, and thematic instruction.
- Integrate multiple intelligences into your school's existing school reform.

Reading to Learn: Comprehension Instruction™ Online

Discover the best ways to help your students construct meaning from what they read. Examine scientifically based comprehension strategies and learn how to adapt them to your classroom and/or content area. Assess student progress and adjust your teaching to become more effective.

Understand how to teach reading comprehension

- Analyze the latest reading comprehension research.
- Examine the importance of effective reading comprehension instruction across the curriculum.
- Determine the variables related to reading comprehension success, including learner characteristics, aspects of text, the reading task, motivation and engagement, and students' use and transfer of strategies.

Implement effective reading comprehension practices

- Provide appropriate reading comprehension strategies for diverse learners.
- Develop instructional practices that help students to interact with texts to enhance meaning.
- Provide meaningful, productive vocabulary instruction.
- Use informal and formal assessments to diagnose students' needs.
- Develop and implement intervention strategies for individual learners.
- Select and develop appropriate instructional materials that align with state and local standards.

Teaching Through Learning Channels® Online

Explore learning style preferences and develop brain-compatible strategies to address them through multisensory teaching. Discover how to address students' basic motivational needs in a learning environment incorporating a variety of brain-compatible techniques.

Understand basic student needs

- Learn the five basic needs for motivating students.
- Identify how these needs are met in your classroom and in your school.
- Design lessons to meet all five needs.

Discover how to teach to all learning styles

- Learn strategies that address all sensory, perceptual, and organizational preferences.
- Meet classroom challenges by using learning styles approaches.
- Design lessons you can use immediately with your students.

Learn how to teach for concept mastery

- Explore the five steps of a natural learning process.
- Design lessons that apply these steps.



Frequently Asked Questions about Online Courses

What makes PLS online courses so effective?

Our participants leave each course with practical, proven strategies they can use in their classrooms immediately. We pride ourselves on the amount of quality interaction and connection that takes place between our instructors and students in our online courses. The amount of commitment our instructors have to their students' learning and success is unparalleled.



How are the courses organized?

Our courses are instructor-led and asynchronous. There are no scheduled meeting times, but there is extensive interaction between instructor and students. The instructor will assign weekly coursework, which students complete and return within a given time frame. Students will also participate in an asynchronous online class discussion, posting and reading comments at times that are convenient for them.

How much time is required for these courses?

Course assignments will include readings that can be completed off-line, videos to view off-line, and various other activities. Time online depends on each student's working style and could be as little as 2 hours or as much as 4 hours each week.

How much interaction is there between the instructor and participants?

We strive to make our online courses as interactive and community-oriented as any traditional course. Our instructors will keep in contact with each student throughout the course — answering questions and giving feedback on all assignments. Additionally, discussion forums allow the instructor and participants to take part in ongoing discussions based on the course assignments. One of the benefits of this type of course is that students have the opportunity to interact and explore effective teaching strategies with educators from around the globe. Many of our students say they participated more and made more connections with other students in our online courses than they normally would in a traditional course!

Are these courses accredited?

Yes, all our online courses are three-semester hour graduate credit courses (or the equivalent). We partner with more than a dozen colleges and universities — PLS offers the courses and the college or university grants the credit. Our partners are regionally and nationally accredited institutions and are located in various states from coast to coast.

About PLS

Performance Learning Systems, Inc.® (PLS®) is passionate about helping educators teach effectively. We offer professional development, graduate courses, online courses, and research-based products and services that have inspired educators for more than 30 years. With a nationwide network of top-level instructors and consultants, PLS has helped more than a million teachers improve their performance and increase their effectiveness.

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- Graduate Credit: 3 semester hours (or the equivalent 4.5 quarter hours) of graduate credit.
- Tuition & Fees: See our Web site for individual course tuition.
- Students who have taken the on-site version of courses cannot register for the online version.

*McDaniel College course registration requirements, please visit:
<http://www2.mcdaniel.edu/getstarted/>

Accredited University and College Partnerships

PLS partners with more than a dozen colleges and universities — PLS offers the courses and the college or university grants the credit. Our partners include the following institutions:

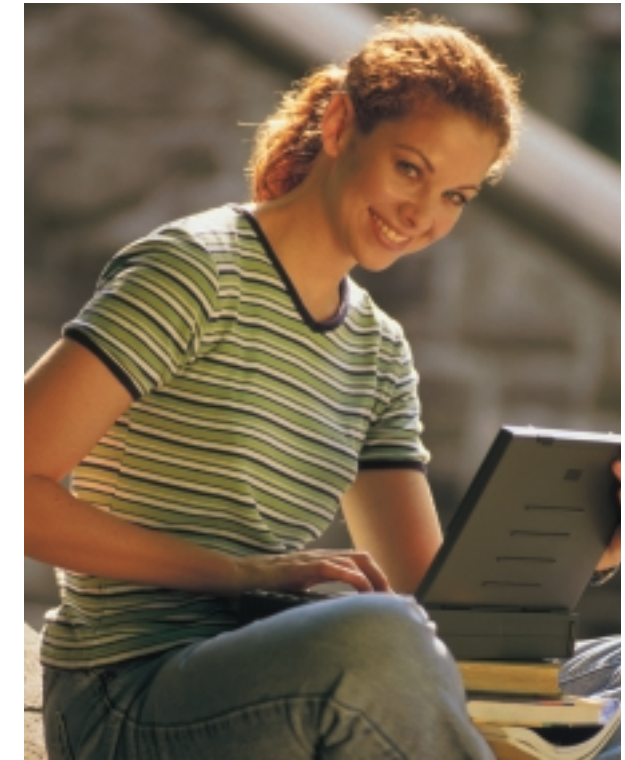


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