



Redwood LEARNING

A Solution Tree and ACUE Partnership



Acquire best practices for remote teaching

Essentials of Online Instruction for a Blended World

The skills built over the duration of a teaching career are impressive and vast. And as the field of education moves forward, deepening expertise in distance learning will continue to be top of mind. With **Essentials of Online Instruction for a Blended World**, individuals and teams gain research-based teaching strategies applicable to virtual and blended learning that will move students toward success today and in the years to come.

Total Professional Learning Time: 12 weeks, 15 hours

Each module includes:

- An introduction to the area of study
- Insights from nationally recognized experts in K-12 teaching and learning
- Videos of current practitioners modeling best practices in online teaching
- Opportunities for participants to select a practice, try it in their classroom, review their progress, and reflect on how the practice impacted teaching and student learning
- A facilitator who provides feedback, manages online discussions, and scores the reflection assignments
- Planning guides and resources so that teachers can immediately begin using strategies and best practices in their classrooms
- Opportunities to learn and collaborate with a cohort of peers



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Solution Tree

Module 1: Building Relationships

Skills Learned

- Using verbal and nonverbal behaviors that indicate affection for students
- Understanding students' backgrounds and interests

Strategies

- Send a welcome message and relevant materials prior to class
- Open classes with an informal greeting
- Use humor and friendly facial expressions
- Develop learning profile surveys or interest inventories
- Become familiar with student culture and integrate it into class when possible
- Build student-to-student relationships

Module 2: Maintaining Engagement

Skills Learned

- Noticing and reacting when students are not engaged
- Maintaining a lively pace
- Demonstrating intensity and enthusiasm

Strategies

- Monitor individual student and overall class engagement
- Successfully re-engage individual students
- Boost overall class energy levels through movement or brain breaks
- Ensure instructional segments occur in a brisk, but unhurried, fashion
- Speed up or slow down the pace to meet students' engagement needs (synchronous)
- Utilize motivational hooks (anecdotes, video clips, or other short attention-grabbing media) to spark students' attention
- Approach content with excitement
- Be fully present with students

Module 3: Using Procedures

Skills Learned

- Establishing procedures
- Acknowledging student adherence to procedures
- Demonstrating withitness

Strategies

- Share the purpose and relevance of the procedure
- Break down procedures into specific steps for clarity
- Practice and repeat procedures as necessary
- Check for clarity of the directions and procedures, and invite questions
- Modify procedures with students
- Provide affirmation to students when they follow procedures
- Be proactive by anticipating what could go wrong, and take action to avoid such scenarios
- Organize course and content from a student's point of view
- Conduct a technology check

Module 4: Delivering Initial Lessons

Skills Learned

- Prioritizing standards and providing clear learning goals
- Previewing, chunking, and processing content

Strategies

- Choose essential standards for the unit
- Clearly articulate learning goals for the unit or lesson
- Ensure students understand and can articulate the learning goals
- Activate students' prior knowledge and engagement with "bell ringer" activities
- Chunk content into short, standalone segments
- Create opportunities for students to process content together

Module 5: Facilitating Student Practice and Application

Skills Learned

- Using structured practice for skills, strategies, and processes
- Engaging students in cognitively complex tasks
- Generating and defending claims

Strategies

- Use modeling
- Provide practice opportunities and monitor progress
- Utilize knowledge application tasks
- Assign activities for students to generate and support claims

Module 6: Assessing and Providing Feedback

Skills Learned

- Using informal assessments of the whole class
- Using formal assessments of individual students
- Ensuring your feedback is effective

Strategies

- Use quick checks to gauge whole-class and individual student understanding
- Use data to inform your instruction
- Utilize common assessments
- Assess through observations
- Provide timely, targeted, and actionable feedback
- Recognize both strengths and areas for improvement
- Use student self-assessments