

Syllabus

Powerful Teaching and Learning: The STAR Classroom Observation Protocol and Process

SEATTLE PACIFIC UNIVERSITY
Spiral
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THE BERC GROUP
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COURSE DESCRIPTION

The purpose of this course is to provide support to educators as they learn to align instructional practices with educational reform goals. This course is fast-paced, interactive, and practical to the everyday work of educators through a school system. Modules include presentations, Power Points, handouts, video lessons, and small group discussions.

GOAL

The two primary goals of this course are: (1) to develop an understanding about what the Essential Components of Powerful Teaching and Learning are and (2) to develop skills around using the STAR Classroom Observation Protocol and Process to help align teaching and learning experiences.

OBJECTIVES

Class members will:

- (1) Understand and be able to describe the differences between our current educational reform efforts and past efforts
- (2) Understand the research findings related to the Essential Components of Powerful Teaching and Learning and achievement for all students
- (3) See classroom lessons and be able to determine the extent to which the Essential Components of Powerful Teaching and Learning are present during the observation period
- (4) Talk to colleagues about the observations and understand the importance of working together to sustain changes in practice
- (5) Apply what we learn from the observations and discussions to our own practice
- (6) Reflect on the extent to which the Essential Components of Powerful Teaching and Learning are present in our own practices

RESOURCES

The primary resource for this course is the CONTRASTING VIDEO SERIES™ provided with your registration. This set contains all of the video and most of the support materials necessary for the course. In addition, there will be a few primary source documents provided in the course materials and through Internet links.

COURSE FORMAT

This course format will follow a general routine of presentation, PowerPoint, class observations (video), STAR Protocol scoring, and dialoguing with colleagues using the Blackboard discussion groups. For those who want university credit for the course, there will also be three assignments.



Course Modules and Assignments

Module	Module Title	Activities	Assignments: <small>Assignments are only for those taking the course for university credit</small>
Module 1 Sept 22 – Oct 5	What is different about this reform effort?	<i>How People Learn</i> (executive summary) <i>A Call to Reform</i> PowerPoint Discussion Board	
Module 2 Oct 6 – Oct 12	Looking at Instruction	PowerPoint Video (Pre-reform -- Bonnie) STAR Phase I Protocol Discussion Board	
Module 3 Oct 13 – Oct 19	Looking for Powerful Teaching and Learning	PowerPoint Video (Post-reform -- Bonnie) Without <i>and</i> With Commentary STAR Phase I Protocol Discussion Board	
Module 4 Oct 20 – Oct 26	Featured Teacher Reflections	Lesson Debrief (DVD) Interview (DVD) Lesson Planning (DVD) Discussion Board	2-page Reflection Paper
Module 5 Oct 27 – Nov 2	Professional Learning Community	Video (Pre-reform -- Craig) STAR Phase II Protocol Discussion Board	
Module 6 Nov 3 – Nov 9	Lesson Planning	Video (Post-reform -- Craig) Without <i>and</i> With Commentary STAR Phase II Protocol Discussion Board	
Module 7 Nov 10 – Nov 16	Featured Teacher Reflections	Lesson Debrief (DVD) Interview (DVD) Lesson Planning (DVD)	Lesson Plan Tool
Module 8 Nov 17 – Nov 23	Calibration	Video (Pre-reform -- Heather) STAR Phase III Protocol Discussion Board/ Phase III Protocol	
Module 9 Nov 24 – Nov 30	Calibration Featured Teacher Reflections	Video (Post-reform -- Heather) Without <i>and</i> With Commentary STAR Phase III Protocol Discussion Board/Phase III Protocol	
Module 10 Dec 1 – Dec 7	Featured Teacher Reflections	Lesson Debrief (DVD) Interview (DVD) Lesson Planning (DVD)	2-page Reflection Paper