As a member of the Washington Teachers’ Union (WTU), you are entitled to a deep discount in the fees for a variety of teacher leadership and adult learning opportunities designed to enhance your professional growth. WTU’s professional development courses are all research-based, peer-to-peer and solution-driven. They all help teachers build content knowledge and mastery of pedagogical strategies. All WTU courses are aligned to the DCPS IMPACT Teaching and Learning Framework and Essential Practices Standards 1 through 5. **Classes need at least 5 paid registrants to officially move forward.**

Successfully completing a course helps you fulfill re-certification requirements. Most courses offer 45 Professional Learning Units (PLUs) that can be used toward re-certification. Alternatively, most – but not all – of the courses offer 3 Trinity University graduate credits that you can use toward re-certification **instead of** using the PLUs.

**WTU Member Registration Fees**

- **Early Bird Deadline -- $125, per course**: January 12, 2022
- **Regular pricing -- $150, per course**

**Non-Member Registration Fees**

- $300 per course

**Trinity University Graduate Credit (3)**

- $375, **in addition to the registration fees listed above**. Payments must be made directly to Trinity University. To receive graduate credit, participants must submit the WTU registration form and the Trinity University registration form along with all applicable fees.

**Unfortunately, we can offer no refunds.**

Contact Sarah Elwell at selwell@WTULocal6.net with any questions.
WTU Professional Development Courses
Spring 2022

ALL CLASSES WILL BE VIRTUAL

Educating Low Vision Students

Instructor: Dr. John L. Taylor

4:30-6:30pm; Mondays & Wednesdays: February 7, 9, 14, 16, 28; March 2, 7, 9, 14, 16, 21, 23, 28 & 30

This course is designed to acquaint participants with the degrees of visual dysfunction and the kinds of technology that should be utilized in working with the blind and visually impaired. Students discover best practices for working with this targeted group. Field experiences for the participants will be offered in order to learn first-hand what services are available for low-vision and blind students.

Participants may earn 45 PLU’s or 3 graduate credits from Trinity University.

RSVP here: [https://www.wtulocal6.net/spring_2022_low_vision_students](https://www.wtulocal6.net/spring_2022_low_vision_students)

English Language Learners 101: Planning for Success

Instructors: Noel Emilius

Saturdays: March 5, 12, 19, 26, and April 2; 9:00am-1:00pm.

These modules are targeted to educators of pre-K-12 ELLs and are designed to provide information on second language acquisition research to enable participants to provide students with equitable access to standards-based academic content and to validate the instructional practices for ELLs while also equipping participants with differentiation strategies. Information discussed in this course enhances the instructional practices of mainstream educators of ELLs who are currently implementing and expanding their repertoire by introducing new research-based strategies. This course engages participants in learning about content-based literacy and ELL access to the Common Core State Standards.

Participants may earn 45 PLU’s.

RSVP HERE: [https://www.wtulocal6.net/spring_2022_english_language_learners](https://www.wtulocal6.net/spring_2022_english_language_learners)

Foundations: Organizing the Classroom for Teaching and Learning

Instructor: Shanice Smith

9am-1pm; Saturdays: April 23 & 30; May 7, 14 & 21

This core course addresses the fundamental aspects of teaching and learning that are relevant for teachers in all grade levels and subject areas. It examines best practices for establishing and maintaining classroom management and maximizing use of learning time. Participants also study questioning and feedback skills, the role of homework, interactive guided instruction strategies and scaffolding techniques. This course is recommended as the primary offering for all educators. It is frequently used as the basis for mentoring and peer assistance.

Participants may earn 45 PLU’s or 3 graduate credits from Trinity University.

RSVP here: [https://www.wtulocal6.net/spring_2022_foundations](https://www.wtulocal6.net/spring_2022_foundations)
The Hispanic Culture and Spanish Language II
Instructor: Louis Blount
Saturdays: April 23 & 30; May 14 & 21; June 4; 9:00am-1:00pm
This intense course is designed for school personnel in D.C. Public School to converse in Spanish beyond the basic level with Hispanic students and parents. Emphasis will be on acquiring an advanced understanding of the Spanish language through grammatical structures used in Spanish conversation, mastering listening concepts for communicating with native Spanish speakers, writing basic communicative texts for parents, and reading in the target language to communicate educational matters to parents. In addition, the student learn important cultural aspects of Hispanic culture. Work outside class hours will be assigned to attain the necessary 45 hours that are required by DCPS. Technological platforms used will be ZOOM, Google Classroom and DRIVE, and www.conjuguemos.com. It is recommended the students have a Gmail account, but it is not necessary.

Prerequisite: Hispanic Culture and Spanish Language I, previous Spanish language experience or professor’s permission: LBlount@WTULocal6.net.

Participants may earn 45 PLU’s or 3 graduate credits from Trinity University.
RSVP HERE: https://www.wtulocal6.net/spring_2022_hispanic_culture

Instructional Strategies That Work for All Disciplines
Instructor: Tiffany Dyson
Saturdays, March 5 & 19; April 2, 23 & 30; 9:00am-1:00pm
This course is designed to provide participants with instructional strategies that meet the needs of all students at all grade levels, preK-12. Emphasis will be placed on cognitive challenges and contextual circumstances that either support or impede learning. The implications of brain research and digital literacy will be central to the learning.

Participants may earn 45 PLU’s or 3 graduate credits from Trinity University.
RSVP HERE: https://www.wtulocal6.net/spring_2022_instructional_strategies

Managing Behavior in School Communities
Instructor: Staci Adams
Wednesdays: February 2, 9, 16, 23; March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; April 6, 13, 20, 27; May 4, 11
*includes dates of independent study
5:00pm – 8:00pm (office hours included)
The anti-social actions of a small number of students put their own academic success at risk and threaten others. This course presents research on the emotional and behavioral problems of students who consistently act out. Participants will learn strategies to reduce and/or prevent the occurrence of disruptive outbreaks.

Participants may earn 45 PLU’s or 3 graduate credits from Trinity University.
RSVP HERE: https://www.wtulocal6.net/spring_2022_managing_behavior
National Board Certification Support Classes

Instructor: Maria Angala
Tuesdays: May 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31; 5:30-7:00pm

The class is composed of a series of comprehensive review sessions designed to provide interested National Board candidates important information about the certification process, time to examine component and Assessment Center requirements, the opportunity to plan how to meet requirements, and time to collaborate, gather resources and information needed to pursue certification — all in a supportive, constructive, and collegial environment. Session 1: Focus on Body of Knowledge and Content Knowledge. Session 2: Differentiation in Instruction. Session 3: Teaching Practice & Learning Environment. Session 4: Effective and Reflective Practitioner. Session 5: Foundations in Practice for Components 2, 3 and 4.

Participants may earn 20 PLU’s.

RSVP HERE: https://www.wtulocal6.net/spring_2022_national_board_certification

Reading Comprehension Instruction

Instructor: Eulyn Thomas
Saturdays: March 5, 12, 19, 26; April 2; 9am-1pm.

This course focuses on the research and instructional practices that help students acquire strong reading comprehension skills. It provides participants with research on comprehension instruction and vocabulary development. Participants examine, discuss and evaluate the application of a wide range of instructional strategies for teaching comprehension skills to use with both narrative and expository text and subject matter text books. It also demonstrates how students can monitor their own reading progress and apply appropriate strategies when comprehension is not achieved.

Participants may earn 45 PLU’s or 3 graduate credits from Trinity University.

RSVP HERE: https://www.wtulocal6.net/spring_2022_reading_comprehension

Reclaiming Assessments: Using a Balanced Classroom Assessment System to Strengthen Student Learning

Section 1- Instructor: Renee LaRue
Saturdays: January 15, 22, & 29; Feb 5, Feb 12; 10am-1pm

Section 2- Instructor: Maria McLemore
Saturdays: March 5, 12, 19, 26; April 2 and 9; 9:30am-12:30pm

This course is designed to help you understand the power of assessment and monitoring student growth to inform instruction. All teachers want to know where their students start, how they progress, and the results of the teaching and learning process. Diagnostic, formative and summative assessments each play a role in monitoring student learning. Throughout this course, we will talk about using a balanced assessment system in your classroom to support instructional decisions for optimal student success.

Additionally, we will look at how assessment is important in helping students to take charge of their own learning. Finally, we will address the importance and power of culturally responsive pedagogy, curriculum and assessment to ensure students are engaged in authentic learning.

Participants may earn 35 PLU’s.

RSVP for Section 1: https://www.wtulocal6.net/spring_2022_reclaiming_assessments
RSVP for Section 2: https://www.wtulocal6.net/spring_2022_reclaiming_assessments_sect2
Social and Emotional Learning
Instructor: Dr. Persephone Brown
Saturdays: April 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30; 9am-1:00pm
Are you looking for ways to assist your students in managing their emotions, building positive relationships with others and making responsible decisions? In this mini-course, participants will identify and share developmentally appropriate, research-based strategies that foster students’ social and emotional growth. In addition, we will examine best practices for creating and cultivating a positive beginning of the school year. This course is based on the Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL) framework.
Participants may earn 45 PLU’s.
RSVP HERE: https://www.wtulocal6.net/spring_2022_social_and_emotional_learning

Successfully Integrating the Arts Into Your Classroom
Instructor: Vincent A. Pope
Saturdays: March 19 & 26; April 23 & 30; May 7; 8:30am-1pm.
Teachers learn how to successfully incorporate music into their lessons in order to improve outcomes and make learning come alive in their classrooms. Emphasis is placed on the historical periods of western music from the Baroque period through the 21st century. The research presented provides insight into the lives of the great composers and their compositions. We study the political, social, economic and cultural times in which the music was created. Participants learn about the compositional styles of famous figures of the musical periods while listening, viewing and discussing each musical piece. The course also presents a synthesis of research on arts integration in public schools in the United States, and the history of integrating the arts into teaching. Teachers gain knowledge of how the arts can play a vital role in the development of the whole child.
Participants may earn 45 PLU’s or 3 graduate credits from Trinity University.
RSVP HERE: https://www.wtulocal6.net/spring_2022_integrating_the_arts

Thinking Mathematics, Grades K-2
Instructor: Joseph Martin
Saturdays: January 15, 22 & 29; February 5 and 12; 9am-1pm
This course focuses on research about how children learn mathematics and the implications of these findings for the classroom. Ten principles capture practices that lead kindergarten-2nd grade students toward gaining a better understanding of math in order to progress at higher grade levels.
Participants may earn 45 PLU’s.
RSVP HERE: https://www.wtulocal6.net/spring_2022_thinking_mathematics_grades_k_2
FREE WTU WORKSHOPS

10 Trauma-Informed Strategies to Help Students Heal

Instructors: Jim Arey & Janet Jerome, American Federation of Teachers

Saturdays: January 15, 22 & 29, February 5 & 12; 9am-12noon

Participants will gain a deeper understanding of how adversity can impact children’s developing brains, bodies and behaviors. They will also explore universal primary prevention strategies that promote healing after traumatic events. Participants will learn and practice ten research-based trauma-informed practices to boost student resilience: 1. Teach students about trauma 2. Make everyday interactions trauma-informed 3. Be healthfully present 4. Facilitate positive experiences as a supportive adult 5. Teach resilience step-by-step 6. Help students manage their triggers 7. Support grieving students 8. Respect risk and assess assets 9. Speak up, share power 10. Envision new ways forward with attention to wellness

Participants will receive 20 PLU’s.

Conversational Spanish

Instructor: Rejil Solis

Wednesdays: January 19 & 26; February 2, 9, 16 & 23; April 6, 13, 20 & 27; May 4, 11 & 18; 6pm - 8pm

Expose: Saturdays: February 12; March 12; April 9; May 14; 2 - 5pm

These sessions focus on naturally conversing in Spanish with interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational language proficiency. Participants spend a lot of time on pronunciation techniques and skills. Conversational Spanish will occur as students learn and use this language in a variety of real-life contexts such as in-class group settings and interpersonal oral communication. Participants will also find opportunities to develop cultural insights and make cultural connections and comparisons.

Participants will receive 45 PLU’s.

Culturally Responsive Pedagogy

Instructor: Dr. Casey Collins

Series #1: Saturday, January 29 and Saturday, February 12 @ 9:30am-12:30pm

Series #2: Saturday, April 2 and Saturday, April 9 @ 9:30am-12:30pm

Research suggests that students from diverse cultures may need to be engaged differently in ways that support their self-efficacy, esteem and their learning. In this 2-part session, we will establish the connection between culture and learning, and explore research-based strategies, such as cultural competency, high expectations and critical consciousness.

These are identical sessions. Participants will receive 8 PLU’s.

RSVP for Series #1 HERE: https://www.wtulocal6.net/spring_2022_culturally_responsive

RSVP for Series #2 HERE: https://www.wtulocal6.net/spring_2022_culturally_responsive_2
Dimensions of Wellness

Instructor: Dr. Casey Collins

SESSION 1: Saturday, January 22; 9:30-12:30pm
SESSION 2: Saturday, April 23; 9:30-12:30pm

Taking care of your well-being goes beyond outward appearances. How you balance your physical, spiritual and emotional health, alongside your interactions with the world you live in will determine the success of your personal healthcare. In this session, learn how to tackle all aspects of “you” to increase the likelihood that you stay well. Taking care of yourself is paramount to your success.

These are identical sessions. Participants will receive 4 PLU’s.

RSVP for Session 1 HERE: https://www.wtulocal6.net/spring_2022_dimensions_of_wellness
RSVP for Session 2 HERE: https://www.wtulocal6.net/spring_2022_dimensions_of_wellness_2

Flagway League

Instructor: Raphael Bonhomme

Mondays: 5pm-6pm | January 10, February 7, March 14, April 11, May 9

Be a part of a community of DC educators who are transforming the way math instruction is delivered to students!!! “The goal of The Flagway™ Game is to create environments where students can practice and celebrate learning math. There are many different ways to create a cultural context in which mathematics emerges naturally from students’ experience. One method used by the YPP and the Algebra Project is to create mathematically rich games and experiences.” Find more info here: http://www.typp.org/flagway.

Participants will receive 15 PLU’s.

RSVP HERE: https://www.wtulocal6.net/spring_2022_flagway_league

The Game Factor

Instructor: Dr. Casey Collins

Saturday, March 26; 9:30am-12:30pm

Explore an instructional design that works for both online and in-person instruction. Caution: We will talk about games, but this module will cover much more.

Participants will receive 4 PLU’s.

RSVP HERE: https://www.wtulocal6.net/spring_2022_the_game_factor

IMPACT Professional Development

Instructors: Various

Saturdays: January 29 and March 5 @ 9am – 1pm

In many ways, your career in DCPS is dependent upon the IMPACT scoring system. Learn what the system measures, how it works and much more. Participants will take a deep dive into the scoring systems used by DCPS which include the Essential Practices, Teacher-Assessed Student Achievement Data (TAS), Community School Commitment (CSC) and Core Professionalism (CP)

Participants will receive 6 PLU’s.

RSVP HERE: https://www.wtulocal6.net/spring_2022_impact_pd
The Social Practice of Literacy in Special Education (ASYNCHRONOUS)

Instructor: Denise Osborne, Doctoral Student Researcher
Location: Online via Canvas Learning Management System
Orientation: Wednesday, February 16 @ 7pm via Zoom
Pre-course surveys (Feb 28-March 6): Background History Survey, Pre-course Teaching Scenarios, & the Language Attitude Scale
Module 1: March 7-13
Module 2: March 14-20
Module 3: March 21-27
Module 4: March 28-April 3
Post-course surveys (Due: April 4-8): Participant Evaluation Questionnaire, Post-course Teaching Scenarios, & the Language Attitude Scale

This free asynchronous professional development course is part of a dissertation study that will focus on increasing high school special education inclusion teachers’ awareness of how language ideologies lead to different instructional practices toward African American students. Specifically, the teachers will learn how the ideologies associated with African American English (i.e., Ebonics) and Standard English influence special education services for African American students. High school special education inclusion teachers will learn more about African American English, learn productive ways to talk with students about the dialects they use, understand language variation and identity in the teachers’ use of language, and learn about linguistic discrimination of regional dialects in the United States. The student researcher is requesting informed consent to examine one's pre- and post-course survey responses and discussion post responses for dissertation data to evaluate the effectiveness of the online course. Consent to permit the use of one’s course responses is 100% voluntary.

All teachers will earn 15 free PLUs for completing the course, regardless of their informed consent decision.

Participation criteria: High school special education inclusion teachers.
RSVP HERE: https://www.wtulocal6.net/spring_2022_literacy_in_special_education

Strategies for Student Success

Instructor: Joy Newman
Saturdays; 4:00-7:00pm

Strategies for Student Success includes activities that require reflection on daily practice, debate over research and current practices, utilizing modeling, and experiential learning. The following modules will be offered in this section:

- Curriculum Matters - January 15
- Teach Them to Think - February 19
- The Trio: Inquiry-Based, Problem-Based & Project-Based Learning - April 16
- Students with Challenges - May 7

Participants will receive 4 PLU’s per session.
RSVP HERE: https://www.wtulocal6.net/spring_2022_student_success