

Earn 1-3 graduate credits in your own district with...

Instructional Strategies and Interventions for At Risk Students

Dear Fellow Educator...

While conducting my workshops on dropout prevention, teaching the traumatized child, and high school reform, it occurred to me to develop a graduate course specifically designed to provide the following for you:

- the opportunity to **make a real difference** in the lives of your at risk students
- the tools and resources to **conduct action research** with your own students in your own classroom
- the opportunity to work **collaboratively** with your fellow educators as you implement school-wide interventions for your at-risk students.
- the opportunity to earn three graduate credits **without leaving your district (except for the 2 days as noted)**

The course is begun during one of the dropout prevention workshops and continued on your own site. Credit is granted by Northwest Nazarene University in Nampa, Idaho, well known for its outreach programs for educators.

Tuition is \$250/credit hour totaling either \$250 or \$750-

However, the \$200 workshop fees is deducted from your tuition.

Checks and credit cards accepted. Payments, full or partial, will be made at the opening class workshop

Time Commitment: Class begins at one of the following dates during a dropout prevention workshop or institute on April 7, May 2, June 26, or July 31-Final grades will be posted in December of 2011. Attendance **at any of the dropout prevention workshops or institutes** is required and counts as 15 hours towards the hours required by NNU. (You will keep a time log of your activities).

Activities:

- spending time observing your students
- discussing critical issues with them to determine their greatest needs
- conducting surveys to finalize the needs you will address
- analyzing the results to narrow down your choice of interventions
- implementing the appropriate interventions
- meeting with co-workers (if appropriate)
- reading texts and passages as assigned (some are mine, some will be your own choice)
- writing reflections, reviews
- writing up your final project which will be a description of your action research

All work outside of the 2-day workshop (of your choosing) is conducted at your site and through correspondence with me via e-mail, Google Apps, and Elluminate.

Accommodations:

The Stagecoach Motor Inn (307) 455-2303 has good rates, wi-fi, and is walking distance to all the restaurants. Mention you are attending my workshop. Any other questions please contact me via phone or e-mail.

Meeting Times: April 7-8: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. May 2-3: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
June 26: 3-9 p.m., June 27: 9-5, June 28: 9-5, June 29: 9-noon
July 31: 3-9 p.m., Aug. 1: 9-5, Aug. 2: 9-5, Aug. 3: 9-noon

Meals:

Breakfast and lunch are provided.

Following are course descriptions for both the 3 credit and 1 credit classes

Thanks, Susan Kinneman, Ed. S., The Pinnacles Group Educational Consultants

Course description as approved by Northwest Nazarene University, Nampa, Idaho

Course Number: EDSN 5361 Section 01

Course title: Instructional Strategies and Interventions for At Risk Students

Course Prerequisites: Bachelor's Degree

Instructor: Susan M. Kinneman, Ed. S.

Continuing Ed Grad Credits: 3

Total cost per credit: \$250 (Total \$750)

1. Educational Goals for the Course: Educators will...

- Practice dynamic teaching strategies and reinforce their teaching philosophies.
- Develop a deeper understanding of their vocation as alternative educators and at-risk educators.
- Share innovative concepts and instructional strategies with their colleagues.

2. Instructional Learning Objectives: Educators will...

- Practice dynamic teaching strategies.
- Network with other alternative school faculty and share ideas and strategies.
- Participate with colleagues during institute activities and assignments.
- Share innovative concepts and instructional strategies with their colleagues in their schools and districts during the weeks after the conference ends.

3. Course Requirements: Educators will...

In class...

- Write a reflective document summarizing the sessions and outlining a plan of action for incorporating the instructional strategies learned at the conference and sharing that knowledge with others.

Out of class...

- Research alternative teaching strategies for the classroom or for use with the individual student.
- Complete and report on readings as assigned by instructor
- Engage in on-line discussion with other classmates.
- Engage in on-line reflection and dialogue with instructor.
- Complete a Course Log Sheet of collaborative meetings and research work outside of the conference sessions.
- Implement a project (collaborative preferred) in home teaching/work setting that extends the work begun in class. Objective: To increase teacher effectiveness, to increase student supports, to decrease student barriers to learning.
- Submit assignments to Susan Kinneman at susankinneman@thepinnaclesgroup.com
Instructor's Phone (307) 922-2517

4. Dates, times, and Location of Proposed Course:

- March 7-8 (15 hours); plus additional hours of research, collaborative team meetings, and outside course work .
- Location: Wind Dropout Prevention Institute, Dubois, WY, and at home site.

5. Due date for completion of course requirements: June 15, 2011

6. Learning resources and required text: Either Adelman and Taylor's The School Leader's Guide to Student Support Systems or The Implementation Guide to Student Learning Supports; articles and research which will be available from instructor or on line, and web site resources as presented.

7. Evaluation Procedures:

Graded: A=90-100, B=80-89 C=70-79 D=60-69

Course syllabus as approved by Northwest Nazarene University, Nampa, Idaho

Course Number: EDSN 5361 Section 01

Course title: Instructional Strategies and Interventions for At Risk Students

Course Prerequisites: Bachelor's Degree

Instructor: Susan M. Kinneman, Ed. S.

Continuing Ed Grad Credits: 1

Total cost per credit: \$250

1. Educational Goals for the Course: Educators will...

- Practice dynamic teaching strategies and reinforce their teaching philosophies.
- Develop a deeper understanding of their vocation as alternative educators and at-risk educators.
- Share innovative concepts and instructional strategies with their colleagues.

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In class...

- Write a reflective document summarizing the sessions and outlining a plan of action for incorporating the instructional strategies learned at the conference and sharing that knowledge with others.
- Submit assignments to Susan Kinneman at susankinneman@thepinnaclesgroup.com
Instructor's Phone (307) 455-2510

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7. Evaluation Procedures:

Graded: A=90-100, B=80-89 C=70-79 D=60-69

What other students have said about this class:

Thank you for the comments on the last paper. I have really enjoyed working on these activities with my students. (Charissa Gibbons)

I have enjoyed this class and have learned much from the books that I have read. I have also like the activities that were introduced to us at the conference. I will continue to use them (Chris Wharton)

Thank you again for the opportunity to take this course from you! I appreciate all you have done and your guidance! Take care till we meet again! Karen Culver

First I want to thank you for this journey! I have lived with a wounded student for years, my middle son. He had learning differences that fell between the cracks. Sad to say..he fit so well in this book!! ...As I read this book I just cried at some of the injustices that students have to face!...Thank you again for this journey! I am blessed to have met you and have the honor of your guidance. I wish you the best!

ps. Thanks for having us do the research project...it felt huge at some points but well worth the time and efforts! Again, thank you. Till we meet again! Karen Culver

I am enjoying the project with the other 3 team members and I think we will have some great opportunities to build our adult ed centers through the student input. Thanks for allowing me to turn in the assignments as I finalize them! I will be in touch! Thanks again! Karen

We have been joking among ourselves that we may have to come back out to your back porch to be "inspired" for the sequel!! lol It has been fun and you truly live in God's country!! Thanks for the opportunity!

You are super. I have been really busy with all of the programs and when I get home, I'm pooped...on another note - it continues to amaze me just how much positive reinforcement helps our students. I wish I could build a home where they could stay and then their parents would think twice about them. I have had a couple of weeks that have been mind boggling. It doesn't matter how busy I am, I always sit and listen.

Thanks Susan. This has helped me to value even more the worked we have been charged with and my life is blessed. Karen Ulanski

Susan thank you so much. I have enjoyed this class and it has given me inspiration to try to share what I have learned with others. I believe that teachers need to know and be more aware of the issues that students are facing. These issues are not age restrictive and we would be more successful in reaching students if we would reach out of our comfort zone and become more involved...I saw on the FOX news channel that schools in California are talking about what you are promoting and planning to promote it in their schools because they see that what is going on now isn't working. Regan
Susan,

Thank you. I appreciate all of your support and encouragement. At times, it was very difficult working with a group on the final paper, but I learned a great deal... Out of the process, a great friendship developed for me with --- that I think we will maintain for years to come. ... Your institute and working through the class have inspired and renewed me!!! At my age, that takes something very extraordinary!!! Thank you for the opportunity to be a part of the it.

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the conference last week. It was a very worthwhile experience and the trip was definitely a view of God's Country! Sue Choens