

Oregon Professional Development System

2009-2010 Schedule of Workshops and Workshop Descriptions

Updated 5/27/09

The *Oregon Professional Development Series* is your opportunity to:

- ◆ learn assessment techniques and tools to use in your classroom and program;
- ◆ interact with colleagues in a productive, motivating learning environment; and
- ◆ expand your knowledge and explore new approaches to enhance your teaching and program.

Register now for one of the 2009-2010 workshops listed on the page that follows!

Pre-registration is required for all workshops. Please follow the registration guidelines and use the registration form to expedite timely and accurate processing of your registration.

Complete Listing of Oregon Professional Development System Workshops

Assessment System Training 2009-2010:

- *BEST Plus Oral English Proficiency Test*
- *CASAS Functional Writing Assessment for ABE/GED/AHSD/ESL*
- *Implementing CASAS I Assessment for ABE/GED/AHSD/ESL (Reading, Listening, and Math)*

Instructional Methods Training 2009-2010:

- *Bridges to Practice: Serving Adults with Learning Disabilities*
- *CASAS II: Assessments Informing Instruction*
- *Holistic Scoring for Writing Assessment for ABE/GED/AHSD*
- *Improving Thinking Skills for Adult Learners*
- *Introduction to the 4-Point Scale for Scoring the GED Essay*
- *Researched-based GED Math Instruction*
- *Theory, Methods and Strategies for Teaching ESL*

Additional Instructional Methods Training:

Additional instructional methods workshops are available for customization in the areas of adult learning, communicative ESOL, cooperative learning, cultural awareness, math as problem solving, teaching and learning with technology interface, teaching strategies for multi-level ESL classes, and working together for teachers and volunteers.

For additional information please contact:

Lydia Perry, Phone: 541-737-8835, E-mail: lydia.perry@oregonstate.edu

Susan Fish, Phone: 541-737-9059, E-mail: Susan.Fish@oregonstate.edu

For information on how to schedule a workshop for your organization, please contact Susan Fish for OPDS guidelines on requesting/ hosting workshops. Or, you can locate OPDS on the web at oregonstate.edu/education/wccd/westerncenter.html.

Oregon Professional Development System

2009-2010 Schedule of Workshops and Workshop Descriptions

Updated 5/29/09

For additional information on when these workshops are offered and how to register please see the 2008-2009 Schedule of Workshops (regularly updated and disseminated by e-mail).

Assessment Workshops

BEST Plus Oral English Proficiency Test (Speaking Proficiency)

The BEST Plus is an individually administered face-to-face oral interview designed to assess the English language proficiency of adult English language learners. It assesses interpersonal conversational communication using everyday English. The training includes an overview of the development and purpose of the test as well as opportunities to practice delivery and scoring, and clarification of administration and scoring issues. By the end of this training, participants will:

- Recognize the importance of assessing oral language proficiency;
- Be able to administer and score the BEST Plus test (after successful completion of the certification activity); and
- Interpret BEST Plus scores.

This training requires approximately fifteen minutes of time on pre-workshop activities.

Registration Pre-requisite: Non-native English speakers must demonstrate English language skills at SPL 9 or higher. (When registering, non-native English speakers **are required** to submit their own BEST Plus score sheet showing their score of SPL 9 or higher along with their Test Administrator's name and signature, to be sent with the registration form.)

CASAS Functional Writing Assessment Picture Prompt for ABE/GED/AHSD and ESL

The CASAS Functional Writing Assessment consists of two parts: Part A is a six-hour introductory training workshop with a take-home assignment and Part B is a six-hour follow-up session. The training provides ABE/GED/AHSD/ESL practitioners and providers with a means of assessing their students' writing skills in a functional, workplace, employability, and life skills context. The assessment is appropriate for use with ABE, GED, AHSD, and ESL students with beginning to advanced level writing skills (CASAS levels A, B, C, and D). This writing assessment assists programs and instructors in determining the learner's general writing level. By the end of this training, participants will:

- Understand the importance of functional writing skills in society and on the job and gain effective ways to assess these skills;
- Be able to administer and score the CASAS Picture Task (after successful completion of the certification activity); and
- Use the diagnostic information provided by the assessments to determine which writing skills the learner needs to target.

This training requires approximately two-and-a-half to three hours of time on the interim take-home assignment.

Oregon Professional Development System

2009-2010 Schedule of Workshops and Workshop Descriptions

Updated 5/29/09

Implementing CASAS I Assessment for ABE/GED/AHSD/ESL (Reading, Listening, & Math)

This seven-hour training is for instructors, program managers, tutors, and anyone needing to learn the CASAS assessment system. This training focuses on the CASAS assessment tools for native speakers of English (the Form 130 Appraisal, CASAS Reading and CASAS Math series of assessments) and for English as a Second Language speakers (the Form 20 Appraisal, CASAS Listening, and CASAS Reading series of assessments). By the end of this training, participants will:

- Increase their understanding of the Oregon assessment system;
- Be able to determine the appropriate pre- and post-test form to provide student/client progress information;
- Understand how assessment methods provide useful information and descriptions of student/client abilities/competencies in the context of work, family, and community (basic and life skills); and
- Be able to administer, score, and interpret the CASAS appraisal/placement inventories in order to make appropriate student/client placements in adult education and employment programs (after successful completion of the certification activity).

This training does not cover other ESL assessments such as BEST Plus or ACT.

Instructional Workshops

Bridges to Practice: Serving Adults with Learning Disabilities

The *Bridges to Practice* training and materials are designed to help teachers, social workers, employment counselors, job coaches, and others

- recognize learning disabilities,
- learn how to implement a screening process in a program,
- learn what to do when an adult has been diagnosed with a disability, and
- learn to use appropriate teaching techniques and different ways of presenting information to clients and students with learning disabilities

The *Bridges to Practice* training for Oregon consists of a three-part cycle of training conducted over the course of a few months.

- Part I – Learning Disability Awareness
- Part II – Assessment and Planning
- Part III – Implementation Process

Participants will receive training materials and resource information at each part of the training and are expected to attend all three parts of the training. Between sessions, application of skills learned in this training is required.

CASAS II: Assessments Informing Instruction

This six-hour workshop is for adult educators and practitioners who use *TOPSpro* or *Expertise* in their programs. It is highly recommended that participants be certified in Implementing CASAS I before attending. In this interactive workshop, participants learn how to use CASAS test results to enhance planning and instruction. Participants attending this session work directly with TOPS reports (from their own programs whenever possible) and learn about instructional support resources including Quick Search.

Research-based GED Math Instruction

Research-based GED Math Instruction focuses on how to teach the specific content and cognitive skills identified as problematic for students who have not been successful on the GED Mathematics Test. Rather than teaching the mathematics content, this workshop models direct, experiential and interactive instructional

Oregon Professional Development System:

Sponsored by the Oregon Department of Community Colleges & Workforce Development,
with coordination by the Western Center for Community College Development.

Oregon Professional Development System

2009-2010 Schedule of Workshops and Workshop Descriptions

Updated 5/29/09

strategies teachers can use to improve student learning. Since this workshop focuses on instructional practice, teachers who already understand the mathematics tested by the GED will benefit most from it. This is a two-part, two-day training. Participants are expected to complete a homework assignment applying skills learned in Part I before attending Part II.

Improving Thinking Skills for Adult Learners

This professional development opportunity is designed for adult educators and tutors who are interested in integrating thinking skills such as problem-solving and decision-making into instructional programs. The training will consist of two six-hour face-to-face sessions, multiple “mini” web-based sessions (independent and group), and on-going mentoring. Bridging the latest research on critical thinking and the dynamics of how adults think and learn, this training emphasizes the *application* of practical instructional strategies to improve student learning. Through readings, shared experiences, group reflection, on-line interaction, and on-site projects, training participants discover a wide range of techniques for integrating “critical thinking across the curriculum” as they themselves learn to think through the content of their discipline. By the end of this training, participants will be able to practice and model critical and creative thinking skills in their classroom teaching, tutoring practice, and daily lives.

This training requires an extensive amount of time outside of the workshop hours.

Introduction to the 4 Point Scale for Scoring the GED Essay

The workshop will introduce the rationale and background of the holistic scale used by the GED Testing Service to score the essay portion of the *GED Language Arts, Writing Test*. Participants will learn about the five traits and four levels of writing on which essays are rated. Participants will have the opportunity to discuss and score sets of sample essays.

Note: This is an instructional workshop intended to help instructors understand how the official GED Essay is scored. The 4 Point Scale has not been approved as a writing assessment for federal accountability.

Theory, Methods and Strategies for Teaching ESL

This two-day workshop is designed for those new to the field of adult ESL or those with experience who are looking for a fresh look at teaching ESL. It includes an overview of language acquisition theory and exposure to a variety of techniques for teaching listening, speaking, reading and writing. Many classroom activities will be demonstrated in Spanish, so participants will experience language learning in a multilevel format. Many cooperative learning activities will be demonstrated as well. Two common ESL classroom situations – the multilevel class and classes where students have the same native language – will be addressed. Upon completion of the workshop, participants will be able to define the basic elements that contribute to language acquisition; identify classroom strategies for developing listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in adult ESL students; define and give examples of the key components of a lesson plan; list ways to facilitate language learning in the multilevel and monolingual classroom; and describe cooperative learning structures that foster language acquisition.

Between sessions, application of skills learned in this training is required.

Oregon Professional Development System

2009-2010 Schedule of Workshops and Workshop Descriptions

Updated 5/29/09

Holistic Scoring for Writing Assessment for ABE/GED/AHSD

This six-hour training is intended for instructors or for persons who score placement or student writing samples utilizing the **six point scoring scale** in accordance with the National Reporting Standards. Attendees should have direct experience with the writing process. The training includes scoring numerous writing samples, and Holistic Scoring for Writing and GED resource handouts are provided. By the end of this training session participants will be able to:

- Differentiate between holistic and traditional methods of scoring writing;
- Use the holistic scoring guide to evaluate essays; and
- Be able to administer and score the Holistic Scoring for Writing Assessment (after successful completion of the certification test).

This training is not intended to instruct individuals in how to utilize the **four point scoring scale** for the GED essay.

2009-2010 Workshop Titles and Registration Costs

- * **Assessment Workshops**\$90 - \$300/participant
- * **Instructional Workshops:**\$75 - \$210/participant

09-10 Assessment System Training:

	Registration Fee
➤ BEST Oral Interview PLUS.....	\$115.00
➤ CASAS Functional Writing Assessment for ABE/GED/AHSD/ESL.....	\$300.00
➤ Implementing CASAS I Assessment for ABE/GED/AHSD/ESL.....	\$90.00

09-10 Instructional Methods Workshops:

	Registration Fee
➤ Bridges to Practice	\$150.00
➤ CASAS II: Assessments Informing Instruction.....	\$80.00
➤ Holistic Scoring for Writing Assessment for ABE/GED/AHSD	\$90.00
➤ Introduction to the 4-Point Scale for Scoring the GED Essay.....	\$75.00
➤ Research-based GED Math Instruction	\$160.00
➤ Improving Thinking Skills for Adult Learners	\$210.00
➤ Theory, Methods and Strategies for Teaching ESL.....	\$150.00

Oregon Professional Development System

2009-2010 Schedule of Workshops and Workshop Descriptions

Updated 5/29/09

HELPFUL RESOURCES

State of Oregon: Adult Basic Skills

In Oregon, adult literacy refers to the basic reading, writing, speaking, life, and work skills adults need to function effectively at home, in the community, and the workplace. This web site is for those interested in learning about how to improve their own skills, or how to help someone else improve their skills, and for those who work in the field of Adult Basic Skills and English as a Second Language instruction. Many agencies form a network to bring basic skills education to all Oregonians who are eligible and in need. The hub of this network is the Oregon Department of Community Colleges & Workforce Development (CCWD). Check out Adult Basic Skills in Oregon:

<http://www.oregon.gov/CCWD/ABE/index.shtml>.

For additional information, contact Mary Jane Bagwell, Maryjane.Bagwell@state.or.us

NW LINCS

Visit the NW LINCS web site for many new adult literacy resources. Recent new additions to the site are: ABE Math Classroom Guide, Computer Online Classroom Guide, Teacher ToolBox and many more resources found on the Web. There is also a new resource, "America's Literacy Directory," where you can find locations where Adult Education services are provided. NW Lincs can be accessed at www.nwlincs.org.

Friday Facts

Friday Facts is a weekly newsletter for Oregon's workforce and education providers. It includes information about state level policies, grants, initiatives, public meetings, local news and training updates. To view the Friday Facts, go to <http://www.worksourceoregon.org>. To receive a weekly electronic reminder to check the Friday Facts, contact Terry Bouie, terry.bouie@odccwd.state.or.us.

WA ABE Literacy Resource Center

Washington has graciously opened their resource center lending library to the region, free of charge!

Resource Checkout:

Diane McGuinn at dmcguinn@sbctc.ctc.edu or abe@sbctc.ctc.edu or 360-586-3527

<http://www.sbctc.ctc.edu/able/ResourceCenter.asp>

Direct link to catalog:

<http://www.librarycom.com/cgi-bin/opac.exe/login?library=ABLE%20Network%20Resource%20Center&checkbox=checkbox>

If you would like to check out videos or resources, contact Diane at the above email address or phone number. Please remember to thank them for their generosity in making all of these resources available to Oregon folks!