

Specific Learning Disabilities: Developing Effective Descriptions, Plans and Instruction

Audience:	Grade K-8 Teachers, Special Educators, SLPs, OTs, Psychologists, Guidance Counselors	Location:	TEC Professional Development Center
		Cost:	\$220 TEC/EDCO Members / \$260 Non-Members
Instructor:	Nancy Tarulli	Earn:	12 PDPs
			22.5 PDPs for graduate credit
Dates & Times:	Mondays, March 19, 26 & April 2, 9, 2012 4:00 – 7:00 PM	Grad. Credit:	1 credit from Worcester State University for an additional \$100, payable at the first class

Course Description: What is a *specific learning disability*? Not all learning problems are necessarily learning disabilities. Children exhibit natural differences in their rate of development and what may seem to be a learning disability may be simply a delay in maturation. Children also experience the world differently depending on their culture, social group and/or family of origin. However, since differences in development or experience may put a child at risk of a range of problems, it is important to be able to accurately distinguish between maturation, experience variables and a true learning disability.

This course will examine the procedure educators use to determine if a child meets the criteria for a diagnosis of a specific learning disability. The determination of a specific learning disability requires a collaborative approach that includes collecting a history, testing, observations, intervention strategies and a cooperative effort among teachers, special educators, support staff and families. Specific areas that will be discussed include:

- defining each step of the process of identification and strengthening each part through the development of practices and procedures rooted in current research, including DESE documents, RTI practices/procedures and a broad knowledge of test design, administration and interpretation.
- establishing a collaborative team approach within the school so that plans represent the broadest look at a student and the most effective problem solving strategies. This involves fostering a positive relationship among personnel in regular education, special education and administration.
- accommodating SLD students in classroom plans/ strategies.
- establishing a positive working relationship with parents.

About the Instructor: Nancy Tarulli has worked as a speech/language pathologist, administrator and consultant in a variety of environments including public and private schools, institutional and university clinics as well as private practice. She has a Master's degree in Speech/Language Pathology and is certified in Reading. She is published in *The Reading Teacher* and *Language Speech and Hearing Services in the Schools*. She has been presenting workshops on Language Disabilities, RtI, Classroom Inclusion for Language Arts, ASD, The Speech to Reading Continuum, and Executive Function since 1989.

Cancellations: No credits or refunds will be given on withdrawals less than 10 business days before the first class.

Checks will be processed approximately two weeks prior to the start date of the course; other payments are processed immediately.

Note: After January 27, a \$25 late fee is required with each course registration.

To register: Visit our Online Registration Form at http://www.tec-coop.org/PDL_RegForm.html or complete this form and send, along with your check or purchase order, to:
TEC Professional Development, P.O. Box 186, Dedham, MA 02027

Please register me for "Specific Learning Disabilities" beginning on 3/17/12
Enclosed is a check or purchase order for: ___\$220 TEC / ___\$260 Non-TEC

Name: _____	School: _____
Home address: _____	Role: _____
City, state, zip code: _____	Address: _____
Email: _____	City, state, zip code: _____
Home phone: _____	Work phone: _____

Online registration available! - see TEC website for more information

www.tec-coop.org

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