

Credit Option
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A FREE, expert-led series designed for teachers, administrators, and parents of the gifted!

7th Annual Gifted and Talented Education Webinar Series

Motivating the Gifted but Reluctant Learner

Tuesday, February 3, 2015 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. PST

Not all gifted learners are productive students. Some gifted students establish a perplexing pattern of doing well or doing nothing. Some are reluctant, even resistant, learners refusing to play the school game. This session explores well-documented research on underlying causes of low performance and creates distinctions between non-producers, selective producers and underachievers amongst the gifted populations. Participants are guided through a process for diagnosing specific performance issues.

Diane Heacox, Ed.D., is an Associate Professor of Education at St. Catherine University in St. Paul, Minnesota. She is a national and international consultant and professional development trainer to both public and private schools on a variety of topics related to teaching and learning. Dr. Heacox has taught at both elementary and secondary school levels and has served as a gifted education teacher and administrator, as well as an instructional specialist in public education.

Connecting Thinking and Language with Gifted Students: Elevating the Rigor

Tuesday, February 10, 2015 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. PST

This session will show teachers how elevating the thinking demands on students directly aligns with an increase in complexity of academic language. Participants will learn how to promote high-level thinking through discussions and, in turn, identify the academic language required to participate fully in class. A focus on understanding academic language concretely will guide participants to see the thinking and language connection.

Eugenia Mora-Flores, Ed.D., is an Associate Professor in the Rossier School of Education at the University of Southern California (USC). She teaches courses on first and second language acquisition, Latino culture, and in literacy development for elementary and secondary students. Her research interests include studies on effective practices in developing the language and literacy skills of ELs in grades Pre-K-12. She has written nine books in the area of literacy and academic language development (ALD) for English learners. Eugenia further works as a consultant for a variety of elementary, middle and high schools in the areas of ELD, ALD and writing instruction.

iTools of Rigor and Creativity: Supporting the Gifted Learner

Tuesday, February 17, 2015 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. PST

Technology is the means to put the onus of learning squarely in the hands of students. In a 1:1 iPad environment, students can chart their own pathway to learning that supports CCSS, 21st century skills, and digital literacy. Various iPad apps and corresponding lessons will be featured that support creativity, critical thinking, and rigor in the classroom.

Catherine Cabiness earned an M.S. in Educational Technology from California State University, Fullerton in 2010. She has taught world history in Garden Grove Unified School District for 20 years and also works for the Orange County Department of Education as an online facilitator for the Leading Edge Certification courses and Web 2.0 tools. Catherine's research interests focus on ways to integrate technology, more specifically Web 2.0 tools, in K12 and teacher education.

Building Collaboration with Parents of Gifted Students

Tuesday, February 24, 2015 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. PST

Research shows that parent involvement in education is one of the greatest predictors of student success in the classroom. Parents of gifted students are often overwhelmed by the identification, placement and education process their children experience. This session will identify key tenants of a successful district and parent partnership, strong classroom relationships and parental understanding of what it truly means to have a gifted child in today's rigorous learning environment.

Alison DeMark, Ed.D., is a GATE Coordinator in the Fullerton Unified School District. She also serves on the Orange County Council for GATE as the board's current secretary. Alison has worked in education for 13 years and specializes in the development of teachers. She has lectured on creativity and innovation for the University of Southern California, and building relationships with parent communities for several local districts and conferences.

To register for the **free** webinar series, please visit www.extension.uci.edu/areas/education/gate. Make sure you register for all four webinars. If you have any questions about the credit option, please contact Lisa Kadowaki at Lkadowak@uci.edu.