Professional Development Course Syllabus

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Course Number: EDVE567  (Sec. )  Sponsor ID: 214124
Course Title: VESi: Reading Fundamentals #1 - An Introduction to Scientifically-Based Research
(Office Use Only) Section Title:

Professional Development Credit(s):  2  Total Cost for Credit: $230.00
Course Dates:  Location: Online  Instructor: Mick Jackson
Course Prerequisites: Bachelor's Degree  See Technology Requirements indicated on Syllabus  Instructional Method: Online

NOTE: Professional Development courses do not normally count toward an academic degree.

1. Educational Goals for the Course:
   - An Introduction to Scientifically-Based Research, the first in a three-course series on effective reading instruction, was designed to give background on Reading First as it applies to the No Child Left Behind federal legislation. The course discusses the research that supports scientifically-based research as it applies to phonetically-based instruction, assessment, and evaluation. The course explores myths and misconceptions concerning reading instruction and remediation. It also presents an evaluation checklist designed to assess the effectiveness of your current reading program. The goal of the course is to present you with research, trustworthy evidence, and background information that support the need for a reading program that is based on scientific research and proven methods.

2. Instructional Learning Objectives – Educators will:
   (What will participants be able to do as a result of this class? Measurable results for instructor to determine participants’ grade.)
   - Describe what is meant by critical thinking.
   - Explain what science is and illustrate the six scientific principles.
   - Explain the myths and misconceptions of science, and describe the ways in which we gain information.
   - Describe the impact science has had on medicine, clinical psychology, and education.
   - Illustrate the constraint levels in educational research.
   - Describe the concepts of reliability and validity.
   - Explain what is meant by variability, including the sources of variability.
   - Describe the terms internal and external validity, and explain the threats to each.
   - Illustrate the different research designs/methods (i.e., experimental, single-case, causal-comparative, correlational, and qualitative).
   - Describe the importance of replications and illustrate the types of replications.
   - Describe what is meant by the term research syntheses, and illustrate the National Reading Panel synthesis.
   - Describe the evaluation instrument for Stage I review of reading programs.

3. Course Requirements:
   - Read and complete all information presented.
   - Complete all the examinations, showing a competent understanding of the material presented in those subsections with 70% accuracy or better.
   - Complete course evaluation online after completion date.

4. Course Meeting Dates, Times and Location:
   (A minimum of 15 contact hours, plus additional outside work, required per credit earned.)
   TBD and will meet accreditation standards for a two-semester credit course. Ending date must be indicated at the time of registration and must be within six months of start date.

5. Due Date for Completion of Course Requirements:  Within 6 months of registration.

6. Learning Resources or Text:  Technology Requirements: A high speed broadband connection as well as the most recent version of Internet Explorer, Firefox, Safari, or Google Chrome browser is necessary to access this online course. (See VESi course website www.virtualeduc.com/nnu for detailed syllabus and list of references.)

7. Evaluation Procedure:  Pass/Fail