



## LILIE, LLC Course Information

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### Title of Course (45 hours): **Essential Questioning in Classroom Practices**

#### Course Description:

This course will help educators harness the use of Essential Questioning with a wide variety of student learners. Essential Questioning is a course that will serve to motivate teachers to examine and enhance lesson planning and implementation practices. Topics that will be explored include: What is an essential question? What are the various types of essential questions that teachers can employ in their classrooms? How can teachers develop curriculum and instruction that includes essential questioning as a cornerstone for higher level learning? Additional topics will include practical applications and strategies that can be used immediately in any and all content areas. Concepts learned in this course will enable teachers to meet the rigor of the Common Core Curriculum and motivate their students to excel with academic goals.

#### Overall Course Objective and Expectation(s):

- To understand the origins and components of Essential Questioning
- To apply Essential Questioning to the planning of curricula and specific units of study
- To analyze the role Essential Questioning has in formulating best practices
- To evaluate the efficacy of Essential Questioning in developing critical thinking skills
- To create unit and lesson plans that utilize Essential Questioning as a means to meet Common Core Standards and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills

#### Course Instructional Materials:

All courses maintain a fully developed and dynamic webpage that houses all resources, reference material and various other required informational texts, videos and alike that is both active and relevant to course objectives and content. Course web pages are routinely updated to reflect most current research and available readings therefore instructional materials used to teach course objectives are subject to change.

#### Instructor Consultation and Interaction:

Real time consultation and instruction is provided through the LILIE, LLC discussion boards for each course/classroom on a daily basis.

*Suggested Readings (subject to change):*

- Essential Questions: Opening Doors to Student Understanding, by Jay McTighe & Grant Wiggins
- Answers to Essential Questions About Standards, Assessments, Grading, and Reporting by Thomas R. Gusky & Lee Ann Jung

*Proof of Course Completion:*

LILIE, LLC is committed to assuring that enrollees fully participate in and receive the educational benefits contemplated by the course. Enrollees must demonstrate participation by making detailed postings designed to foster dialogue among colleagues and instructors. These enrollee postings must be made four times each week in separate sessions. Enrollees will be required to submit a detailed log documenting at least 45 hours of course work, including discussion board posts, and will be required to apply information and strategies acquired from the course content to weekly classroom instruction. Attempts to falsify logs or discussion board entries will result in denial of credit and a report to the enrollee's employer.



## Scope & Sequence/Weekly Topics and Objectives

### *Week I*

#### Topic(s):

- \*Essential Questioning defined
- \*Origins of Essential Questioning
- \*Identifying Essential Questioning traits
- \*Appropriate models of implementation

#### Objectives:

Participants will review the benefits of implementing Essential Questioning  
Participants will explore the origins of Essential Questioning beginning with Socrates  
Participants will examine specific examples and techniques/implementation models

#### Impact on Classroom Instruction:

Enhance and apply knowledge of research-based instruction routines  
Broaden one's understanding of effective teaching techniques & best practices  
Understand concepts of Essential Questioning

#### Learner Outcomes:

Comparing essential and nonessential questions  
Understanding defining characteristics of essential questions  
Examining the aim to stimulate thought & to produce engaged learners

#### Assessment of Understanding and Learning/ Weekly Assignments (*including but not limited to posting requirements set forth by LILIE, LLC*):

Peer and Instructor-review of current and best practices  
Analyze Socratic Method  
Application of critical thinking research to classroom practices  
Development of lesson outline



## *Week II*

### Topic(s):

Characteristics of various classroom questions  
Essential Questioning principles and metacognition practices  
Essential Questioning in the context of the Common Core  
Content-Based Essential Questions

### Objectives:

Participants will analyze questioning techniques  
Participants will reflect on metacognition practices  
Participants will create specific, content-based Essential Questions

### Impact on Classroom Instruction:

Enhance and apply knowledge of research-based instruction routines  
Broaden one's understanding of effective teaching techniques & best practices  
Understand framework to create content-specific Essential Questions

### Learner Outcomes:

Detailing specific Essential Questioning techniques  
Planning for implementation of Essential Questioning  
Examining content-specific Common Core standards  
Progression from Concept Categories to Essential Questions

*Assessment of Understanding and Learning/ Weekly Assignments (including but not limited to posting requirements set forth by LILIE, LLC):*

Peer and Instructor-review of current and best practices  
Analyze Six Facets of Understanding  
Application of Essential Questioning research to classroom best practices  
Development and reflection of classroom questioning techniques



### *Week III*

#### Topic(s):

Classroom EQ Implementation  
School Wide EQ Implementation  
Troubleshooting techniques for common classroom challenges

#### Objectives:

Participants will understand detailed process of implementation  
Participants will develop response strategies  
Participants will analyze probing questions  
Participants will begin to design Socratic classroom seminars

#### Impact on Classroom Instruction:

Enhance and apply knowledge of research-based instruction routines  
Broaden one's understanding of effective implementation techniques  
Understand framework to troubleshoot common EQ concerns

#### Learner Outcomes:

Understand undesirable questioning pitfalls  
Development of desirable questioning methods and routines  
Enhanced questioning and authentic student participation methods  
Handling of inaccurate or inappropriate student responses

#### Assessment of Understanding and Learning/ Weekly Assignments (*including but not limited to posting requirements set forth by LILIE, LLC*):

Peer and instructor-review of current and best practices  
Analyze Probing Questions and Overarching Questions  
Application of Essential Questioning research to classroom practices  
Development and Reflection of classroom questioning techniques



## Week IV

### Topic(s):

Classroom Protocols and Procedures Conducive to Essential Questioning  
Use of Texts and Other Learning Resources  
Assessment Practices  
Development of detailed unit plan

### Objectives:

Participants will understand how to establish classroom protocols and procedures  
Participants will develop assessment practices  
Participants will analyze the use of extended learning resources  
Participants will design a complete unit of content-based study

### Impact on Classroom Instruction:

Enhance and apply knowledge of research-based instruction routines  
Broaden one's understanding of effective classroom protocol and procedures  
Understand framework to create an effective unit of study  
Understand how to revise current plans to reflect EQ best practices

### Learner Outcomes:

Understand classroom challenges and pitfalls  
Development of desirable classroom behavior methods and routines  
Enhanced questioning and authentic student participation methods  
Enhanced ability to design rigorous essential questioning routines

### Assessment of Understanding and Learning/ Weekly Assignments (*including but not limited to posting requirements set forth by LILIE, LLC*):

Peer and instructor-review of current and best practices  
Analyze classroom procedure  
Application of Essential Questioning research to classroom practices  
Development and reflection of Essential Question-based units of study