



***GOLD*[®] for Administrators (Preschool to Third Grade)**

SYLLABUS

Course Information

Title: *GOLD*[®] for Administrators (Preschool to Third Grade)

Duration: 10 hours (self-paced)

Credits: 1.0 CEU

Course Description

General Description: This course is intended for administrators of organizations, programs, and schools, that use the *GOLD*[®] assessment system in their work with children from preschool through third grade. The course guides administrators in the effective use of *GOLD*[®] and introduces them to the powerful tools within the *MyTeachingStrategies*[®] platform that support administrators' work related to program management and leadership. Administrators will learn ways to create robust, research-based early childhood programs; characteristics to look for when hiring and observing early childhood teachers; the theory and research behind formative assessment and purposeful play; ways to lead improvement and build a caring community of learners; and the extraordinary importance of strong, supportive teacher–child relationships in a program implementing data-based decision-making. This course also offers practical strategies for correctly establishing and maintaining program license information and best practices related to gathering, interpreting, and using the rich data resources available in the Report area of *MyTeachingStrategies*[®].

Learners completing this course will receive a training certificate of completion.

Learning Objectives: Administrators taking this course will learn how they can optimize the use of *GOLD*[®] and other tools within *MyTeachingStrategies*[®] to inform program planning and guide their teachers to effectively support all children's development and learning. Learners who complete this course will be equipped with a broad range of strategies for using *GOLD*[®] and *MyTeachingStrategies*[®] to support both management and leadership responsibilities related to their roles as school, organization, or program administrators.

Course Structure: This online course is available through the Develop area of *MyTeachingStrategies*[®]. The course is divided into five interests.

- 1) Understanding Formative Assessment

- 2) The Unparalleled Power of Early Childhood Education
- 3) System Administration
- 4) Reading and Interpreting Data
- 5) Leading Improvement

Each interest contains 7–8 learning experiences that present information in a variety of formats, including tutorials (slideshows, interactives, and articles), excerpts from *The Creative Curriculum*® foundational volumes, and application exercises that require learners to reflect on their own practice and apply their new knowledge. The course also includes a 10-part podcast series that offers a variety of hints, tips, and insights into making the most of the many tools available in *MyTeachingStrategies*®. The course is self-guided and self-paced; learners can view the interests and activities and listen to the podcasts in any order, and they may pause and return to them at any time.

The course includes a pre- and post-course survey to measure learners' knowledge at the beginning of the course and at the end of the course, as well as a downloadable study guide. Within the tutorials, knowledge check quizzes help reinforce learning.

Course Requirements

Teaching Experience: This course is designed for education administrators at all levels of experience, from those who are just starting their practice to seasoned leaders seeking to refine their knowledge and skills.

Program/Classroom Application: The course includes a number of practical exercises that require learners to consider their own practice, reflect on their own philosophies and beliefs, and conduct focused observations of an early childhood classroom.

Course Materials: Prior knowledge of *The Creative Curriculum*® foundational volumes—including *Objectives for Development & Learning, Birth Through Third Grade*—is helpful, but not required.

Technical Requirements: Each learner will need access to a computer or tablet with an up-to-date web browser and operating system. The *MyTeachingStrategies*® professional development platform is compatible with the following web browsers: Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox, Internet Explorer, and Safari. Some activities within the course include PDF documents that learners can download. These documents require Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available for download at <https://get.adobe.com/reader/>.