

THEORY/DEVELOPMENT OF CREATIVITY

Component #: 2-106-002
In-Field For: All

Points:60

PLANNING

General Objective: The participant will demonstrate knowledge of theory, research, practical strategies, and resources on creativity, with an emphasis on classroom applications and will demonstrate the ability to work as a catalyst in being able to stimulate and develop the creative interests of students.

Specific Objectives:

Topic 1: Valuing Creativity

1. Describe the importance, implications, and benefits of creative thinking for students in today's schools and society.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of how creative thinking can be used to address problems in society.
3. Describe the impact of creativity on personal growth and self-actualization.

Topic 2: Defining Creativity

4. Compare and contrast several definitions of creativity, including a personal definition, and explain why a single definition has not been universally accepted.
5. Review research in the field of creativity and apply it to a classroom setting.
6. Demonstrate an understanding of the elements of creative thinking, e.g., fluency, flexibility, originality, and elaboration.
7. Identify cognitive and personal characteristics associated with creativity across cultures and throughout time using contemporary and historical examples.

Topic 3: Developing and Nurturing Creativity

8. Identify specific personal, developmental, socio-cultural, and educational experiences that facilitate and those that inhibit the development of creativity and its expression.
9. Recognize ways to establish a classroom environment that fosters the development and expression of creativity.
10. Plan appropriate teaching strategies and groupings that support the development and expression of creative abilities.
11. Investigate tools and programs (e.g., Odyssey of the Mind, Future Problem Solving, Invent America) for generating ideas, focusing thought, and fostering creativity.
12. Develop instructional plans to integrate creativity, within and across the content areas, focusing on process and product.

Topic 4: Measuring Creativity and Assessing Creative Outcomes

13. Understand the role of assessment of creativity and the use of tests and inventories.
14. Describe, compare, and evaluate different instruments for measuring creativity.
15. Examine the role of assessment, including portfolio development, in the evaluation of creative processes and products.
16. Describe traits and appropriate criteria used to assess creative outcomes and products.

Topic 5: Personalization and Commitment to Creativity

17. Explore and analyze the ethical issues surrounding creativity.
18. Design and implement a personal plan for establishing a classroom environment to nurture and develop creativity.
19. Evaluate personal and student creative development and monitor success in applying creativity strategies to real problems and challenges.

LEARNING

Participants will

1. Attend and participate in all individual and group activities.
2. Read and evaluate research-based literature on theorists' analysis of creativity.
3. Engage in activities that foster creative thinking.
4. Assess and evaluate which brain hemisphere dominates their personality.
5. Identify famous individuals who are deemed to be gifted.
6. Review and critical analyses of creativity assessment resources and results, through observation, case studies, or simulation.
7. Planning, development, and conferences with instructional staff concerning classroom application of course content.
8. Personal reflection and applications of creativity techniques and resources.
9. Debate how technology can be used to foster creativity.
10. Prepare and present a Creativity Lesson on a topic chosen by the class member that will be taught to a class of gifted students.

IMPLEMENTING

1. Structured coaching or mentoring
2. Action research related to the training
3. Collaborative planning related to the training
4. Sample lesson plans
5. Study group participation to discuss curriculum strategies that were successful.

EVALUATING

Participants will

1. Successfully complete all individual and group activities at a level of quality established by the instructor.
2. Submit in writing and present a lesson plan designed to foster the development of the elements of creativity.
3. Complete a self-assessment that analyzes a teacher's progress in realizing the necessary skills of classroom management for teachers of the gifted.
4. Design and submit a satisfactory individual project applying course content to his/her own professional context.

The evaluation of the participant's accomplishment of each of the component's specific objectives shall be accomplished by utilizing pre- and post-testing or other validated measures to determine that the participant has successfully demonstrated increased competency on at least 80% of the specific objectives.

Participants and consultants will assess the degree to which specific objectives have been addressed by the component activities using the Florida Council of Independent Exit Evaluation.