Online Program Syllabus

Program Overview

Since the COVID-19 pandemic forced many schools to shift to blended and remote learning, educators have stretched their abilities and increased their confidence as they've tried new tools, new models and new ways of teaching. It's now time to leverage these new skills to help get students on track to succeed in the upcoming school year.

Summer Learning Academy 2021 is an online professional development program that will help K-12 educators move from surviving to thriving with the intentional use of technology to meet the new realities of learning. It includes 15 hours of asynchronous and optional synchronous professional development content led by ISTE U education experts.

As part of this two-week program, participants will:
- Learn how technology can reach and empower every student, particularly those with special needs.
- Discover how data can help us address the achievement gaps exposed during remote and hybrid learning.
- Find out how to support flexible methods for helping students drive their own learning.
- Connect with ISTE U's expert instructors and educators who are embracing disruption and innovating more than ever.

Program Structure

Summer Learning Academy 2021 is a fully online program that will run from August 2, 2021 to August 13, 2021. Participants can choose to engage synchronously and complete the program during those two weeks or may complete at their own pace, any time before October 31, 2021. After October 31, participants will have view-only access to all materials through December 31, 2021.

Components of the program include:

ISTE U Microcourses

Three asynchronous, 2-hour courses addressing topics such as reaching students with special needs, social and emotional learning, and blended learning models. Courses were developed by ISTE in collaboration with classroom educators who are leading this work on the ground. See below for more details.

Webinars

Featured expert instructors will model and deliver practical and explicit strategies during live, interactive workshop sessions. All webinars are recorded and available for later viewing through December 31, 2021.

Learning Community

Participants will join an online community to engage in reflection and discussion, leverage their collective knowledge and collaborate on best practices. Learners will also be invited to participate in optional one-on-one virtual networking opportunities based on their roles and interests.

Participant Profile

ISTE U's Summer Learning Academy 2021 is designed for all K-12 educators, including classroom teachers, technology coaches, instructional coaches and librarians, who wish to bring forward lessons learned from teaching during the pandemic and to connect with peers and experts to build skills in teaching effectively with technology.

Objectives and Outcomes

By participating in this program, educators will be able to:
- Identify potential barriers and opportunities for inclusion through the use of technology.
- Explore strategies for using technology to support and empower all students, including those with disabilities.
- Reflect on student data to better understand and meet the needs of all students.
- Develop strategies to form meaningful connections with students and families.
- Identify communication and instructional strategies that address students' social and emotional learning and well-being.

- Leverage technology to allow students to connect with each other and global resources.
- Expand their role as teachers to support flexible learning scenarios.
- Develop students as engaged, curious learners who take an active role in their learning.
- Design lessons that make space for student autonomy and interest-driven projects.

ISTE Standards

This program is designed and developed around ISTE's Standards, with a strong emphasis on the [ISTE Standards for Eductors](#) and the [ISTE Standards for Students](#).

Microcourse Descriptions

Microcourse 1: Designing for Inclusion

This course helps educators put into place the structures and strategies needed to understand where their students are and tailor instruction to meet their needs. Key topics include:
- Universal Design for Learning
- Reaching students with disabilities
- Data-driven instruction
- Learner variability
- Formative assessments

Microcourse 2: Supporting Student Well-Being

In this course, educators learn how to open channels of communication with students and families to form meaningful relationships and support student wellbeing. Key topics include:
- Social and emotional learning
- Communication with students' families
- Student collaboration
- Empathy and self-awareness
- Connecting with peers and professional learning communities

Microcourse 3: Accelerating Student-Driven Learning

This course helps educators take the best of online and blended teaching forward to cultivate increasingly flexible and engaging student learning. Key topics include:
- Learner autonomy
- Student engagement
- Project-based learning

- Blended and flipped learning models
- Growth mindset and adaptability

Completion Criteria

To receive their certificate of completion, participants must successfully pass an assessment for each of the three microcourses and submit a final reflection including takeaways from the microcourses and webinars.

Webinar Descriptions

Webinar 1: Power and Empowerment: Honoring By Decision and Design

Andratesha Fritzgerald
Equitable and inclusive learning environments are built on the choices of individuals. This keynote will explore the notions of power and empowerment that are made evident in our decisions, our designs and our outcomes. With antiracism and Universal Design for Learning we can begin inviting every voice to powerful positions by honoring identity, culture, and learning needs. Participants will Explore the definitions of honor and power, evaluate power filled choices and examine the implications of power in equitable access to learning, and begin co-creating a community of educators who are conscious of how to use power to honor learners.

Webinar 2: Strategies for Raising Equity and Advancing SEL in Lessons

Jorge Valenzuela
Educators will consider their student's social and emotional learning (SEL) for both in-person and virtual lessons in this webinar. Using the 'Equity and SEL Integration in Lessons Framework,' they will focus on creating culturally responsive learning experiences that focus on equity, incorporate sound teaching strategies, and use technology creatively. Additionally, they will learn how to activate SEL in everyday lessons to keep learning at the forefront.

Webinar 3: It's Imperative! Add Access to Complex Text

Savanna Flakes
Utilizing effective literacy strategies and technology resources is essential to ensuring students with disabilities have meaningful access to grade-level text. One of the most effective ways to remove barriers and provide access to text is to activate vocabulary and background knowledge. During this interactive course, teachers will gather strategies and technology tools to lift students with exceptionalities to higher levels of "language gain." We will start the course with building knowledge on the literacy triangle, focusing specifically on the ""before""

reading with vocabulary strategies and technology tools to activate vocabulary and background knowledge, and conclude with action steps."

Webinar 4: Fostering Connectedness and Promoting SEL

Rachelle Dené Poth

What are some ways that we can help students to foster peer collaborations in the classroom while building essential SEL skills that will prepare them for their future? We will look at five SEL competencies and explore ideas for creating a flexible, student-driven learning environment, where students build confidence, develop relationships and collaborate on a learning adventure. Together we will share versatile tools and strategies that are beneficial for learning anywhere and help students to develop the skills they need to be successful now and in the future. Attendees will learn ways to provide opportunities for students to connect globally and engage in more authentic and real world learning experiences.

Webinar 5: The Recipe for Success to Create Deeper Learning Experiences for Students

Dr. Kaylah Holland & Kat Crawford

When designing lessons to include all students, teachers become master chefs. Deeper learning can only occur when the right mixture of resources, activities, and content come together in a perfectly balanced course. We begin with selecting the cuisine and identifying the relevant topics such as culturally relevant materials, social emotional learning, personalization, and differentiation that students will order up. Next we must consider the palate of each student in the design so they will engage in the work. Join us for the secret recipe to whip up deeper learning in your classrooms so that you can create an environment where all students find success. For dessert, each attendee will gain access to ample examples and templates. The content will include purposeful lesson design, culturally relevant materials for all students, and creating active learning experiences in the classroom. The webinar will showcase these topics in the theme of creating a well-crafted recipe/menu. The session will flow from one topic into another with breaks for participants to collaborate together and also reflect on their own. We often use tools that allow for individual & collective group interaction such as the video chat and mentimeter among others.

Webinar 6: Awaken Student Innovation: Project-Based Maker Learning and Design Thinking Challenges

Caroline Haebig

This session will provide educators with a variety of ready to use activities that develop your students' maker, design thinking skills! These activities are a perfect way to keep all students thinking creatively and solving mini-challenges in a distance or blended learning environments. These activities can also be used as skill-builders to prepare students for larger design projects.

Disclaimers

This program contains examples and resource materials that are provided for participants' convenience and information. The inclusion of any material is not intended to endorse any views expressed, or products or services offered. These materials may contain the views and recommendations of various subject matter experts as well as hypertext links, and websites to information created and maintained by other public and private organizations. The opinions expressed in any of these materials do not necessarily reflect the positions or policies of ISTE. ISTE does not control or guarantee the accuracy, relevance, timeliness, or completeness of any outside information included in these materials.

NOTE: A variety of applications are highlighted throughout this program. Prior to using any of them with students, it is imperative that participants check the account requirements for each application against their school/district student data privacy policy to insure the application complies with district policy. In addition, some applications' Terms of Service may require parental permission to be COPPA and FERPA compliant for students younger than 13 years of age.

Content in this course is subject to change at ISTE's discretion.