

Thinkfinity

Course Syllabus

Prerequisites

The requisites for this course are:

- successful completion of Foundations of Teaching and Effective Teaching Practices. The preferred course sequence also encourages completion of Instructional Methods and Strategies and Essentials of Instruction and Assessment, when feasible.
- easily accessible and reliable internet access, an active email account that is checked regularly, and word processing software.

Clock Hour Credit

Nine clock hours are issued for successful completion of this course.

Course Description

This course provides comprehensive training on the Verizon Thinkfinity program. Topics include:

- a basic overview of the Verizon Thinkfinity program and Verizon's partnership with premier education and literacy organizations to provide free, standards-based, high quality, online resources.
- navigation to resources from each of the nine partner sites.
- navigation to resources by way of the Verizon Thinkfinity home page and search engine.
- development of a lesson plan to support student learning using Verizon Thinkfinity resources. Participants integrate technology into their specific curricula.

Standards Addressed

Technology Applications State Standards I, II, III, IV, and V are addressed in this course.

Competencies Addressed

The Technology Applications State Competencies addressed are:

1.3s; 1.5s; 1.6s; 1.8s; 1.10s; 1.15s; 1.16s; 1.17s; 1.18s

2.1k; 2.1s; 2.2s; 2.3s; 2.4s; 2.5s; 2.6s; 2.7s; 2.8s

3.1s; 3.7s; 3.8s; 3.10s; 3.11s; 3.12s; 3.13s; 3.14s; 3.15s

4.1k; 4.4s; 4.6s; 4.8s; 4.10s; 4.11s; 4.12s

5.2k; 5.3k; 5.7k; 5.1s; 5.3s; 5.6s; 5.8s; 5.11s; 5.12s; 5.15s; 5.16s; 5.18s

Learning Objectives

Participants explore the Verizon Thinkfinity resources to:

- answer the question, “What is Thinkfinity?”
- define and categorize the different types of resources.
- identify ways that the resources can be used in high-tech, low-tech, or no-tech settings, according to individuals’ technical skills and available technology.

Selected Activities

Participants use the Verizon Thinkfinity resources to:

- navigate from the home page and content partner sites in order to find lesson plans, student materials, reviewed websites, and literacy resources.
- use the search engine to locate resources matching selected criteria, including specific TEKS.
- write a lesson plan with objectives aligned with TEKS, appropriate assessments aligned with the objectives, and efficient use of technology to enhance the lesson and learning experiences for students.

Assessment

The instructor/content consultants assess participants’:

- findings as they are shared with small/whole groups and give clarification, when needed.
- downloading of the lesson plan template.
- uploading his/her completed Thinkfinity lesson plan within two weeks of the course. ***Always retain a copy of completed work. Should there be any submission difficulties, resubmission may be required. The TPC Program is not responsible for email or technical problems resulting in lost or missing coursework.***
- lesson plans and give suggestions, ideas, or recommendations for improvements.
- written work. The expectation is a graduate-quality product, including attention to spelling, punctuation, and format.

Grading Criterion

The Thinkfinity lesson plan is scored by a rubric. Participants must receive a grade of “B” or better in order to receive course credit.

Course Instructor/Facilitator

The instructor for the face-to-face course is available during class to address any course content questions. The instructor provides an email address for follow-up questions.

Class Attendance

Activities and discussions in class are utilized to promote understanding of course content. These cannot be duplicated by copying notes of a classmate. Participants must attend the entire class which includes returning from breaks and lunch “on time”. Grading papers or conducting other business during this time is not permitted. If a participant leaves early due to an emergency, the entire class must be repeated.

Academic Integrity

Each participant enrolled in the Region 10 Teacher Preparation and Certification Program is expected to demonstrate academic integrity at all times. In addition, active participation is expected and monitored throughout coursework and feedback is provided, as needed. Any work submitted by a participant must be the participant’s own work. Any other collaborative activities must be completed in class. Participants are encouraged to study together and to discuss information and concepts with other participants. However, this permissible cooperation should never involve one participant having possession of a copy of all or part of work done by someone else in the form of an email, file, disk CD, internet download, or hard copy. Penalty for violating this guideline leads to no credit for the course and TPC Program disciplinary action.