

Using Effective Group Work to Maximize Learning for All Students

Complex Instruction (CI)—an instructional strategy that emerged from the field of mathematics education—is a research-based strategy for disrupting some of the common pitfalls of traditional group work while engaging students in rigorous content. Knowles has adapted this strategy for science classrooms.

This sustained professional development course is designed for teachers who seek to promote equity in their science classrooms. Initiated by a three-day, in-person workshop—and supplemented with ongoing, virtual support in the fall—this course will provide teachers with the opportunity to become familiar with and experience CI, plan lessons using CI, and receive weekly coaching and support as they implement components of CI in their classrooms. CI promotes an equitable classroom culture through the development of high cognitive demand tasks that allow students of all abilities to contribute, group work structures and teacher moves that disrupt traditional participation patterns, and techniques that help teachers develop classroom norms that promote participation and learning for all students.

DATE: July 7–9, 2020

TIME: 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Moorestown, NJ

PRICE: \$400

Financial support may be available; visit www.knowlesteachers.org/knowles-academy to learn more. Optional graduate course credit is available; additional fees apply. Course is subject to cancellation if minimum enrollment is not met.

Course Highlights

- Identify the components of Complex Instruction (CI) and develop specific plans for implementing components of CI in your classroom
- Learn to use participation quizzes, role interventions, and status treatments to disrupt traditional participation patterns
- Develop instructional tasks that use the multiple abilities treatment
- Redefine what it means to be “smart” in your classroom
- Learn strategies for holding all students’ accountable for group participation and intellectual contributions
- Plan, enact, collect data, and reflect on lessons that use Complex Instruction



The opportunity to learn about equity was incredibly valuable in supporting my thinking on a deeper level and giving me strategies to support and analyze equity/access in my classroom.”

- Carly Brown, Earth Science Teacher
Harwood Union High School, Moretown, VT



The Knowles Academy offers state-of-the-art professional development experiences for teachers. All Academy courses are designed and facilitated by experienced teachers who understand the complexities of teaching in today's world. All courses include one semester or year of mentoring to assist teachers as they work to successfully implement what they've learned in their own classrooms. Participation in the Knowles Academy also gives teachers access to a national network of educators who share resources and ideas, and support each other to continually improve their teaching practice.

Key Knowles Academy Features



Teachers Supporting Teachers

Teachers learn best from other teachers. All professional development that we provide includes experienced teachers as facilitators and coaches.



Professional Community Development

Teaching can be isolating. All of our professional development services are designed to build teacher community so that participants can continue to support each other's learning and professional growth long after the professional development experience ends.



Long-term Support for Sustainable Change

Effective teacher professional development must be sustained and tied to classroom practice. All Knowles Academy courses include long-term support from coaches, opportunities for teachers to ground their learning in their current practice, and engage with other Knowles Academy participants over an extended period.



Professional Expertise & Leadership

Designing and implementing effective professional development requires a diverse range of expertise and experience. All of our professional development services draw and build on the expertise developed within the Knowles community over the last 20 years.

ABOUT KNOWLES

The Knowles Teacher Initiative supports the efforts of high school mathematics and science teachers to improve education in their classrooms and beyond. Visit www.knowlesteachers.org to learn more.

All Knowles Academy courses can be customized to meet the specific needs of schools and districts.
www.knowlesteachers.org/knowles-academy