

***NELMS Summer Institute***  
**2015-2016**

**Plymouth State University of the University System of NH**

Graduate Credit is earned through Plymouth State University in Plymouth, NH. It is an accredited institution offering both a Masters Degree and Advanced Degrees in Education.

**Title:** *NELMS* Summer Institute; Special Topics

Strand A: Middle Level Education in the Digital Age: Student Centered Teaching and Learning with Technology (2 days) or

Strand B: Response to Intervention: We Have the Plan, But How Do We Implement It? (2 days)

**Graduate Credits:** 2.0 or 3.0

**Semester:** Summer 2015 - Winter 2016

**Professor:** Dr. Linda Carrier, [lcarrier@mail.plymouth.edu](mailto:lcarrier@mail.plymouth.edu)

**Course Description:**

This course is designed for participating middle level educators who want to develop tools to more effectively teach young adolescents. Participants will have certain latitude to investigate topics and strategies that will have the greatest individual meaning. Practical, meaningful and appropriate learning practices are the foundations of the courses.

**Evaluation:**

**Two Credits - Course requirements (total of 36 points)**

- ◆ Attend 2 days of the **Conference (18 points)**
- ◆ Keep a **Personal Journal** of the conference (**9 points**)
- ◆ Develop an **Annotated Bibliography** of required readings (**9 points**)

**JOURNAL:** Submit a journal to Dr. Carrier in which you share your thoughts, observations, questions, and reflections that emerge before and from the NELMS experience. Reflect on each activity and include the presenter(s), the topic and the central message of the presentation (**3 points**). Also, include the conversations and professional relations that you develop during the two days (**3 points**). Please reflect on the total Summer NELMS experience as a whole and make commitments to yourself regarding your practice in the upcoming months (**3 points**). These thoughts, questions, and reflections are part of the formal evaluation.

**ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY:** Complete an *annotated* bibliography of required readings. (**9 points**)

All work should be in word documents via email attachment to [lcarrier@mail.plymouth.edu](mailto:lcarrier@mail.plymouth.edu).

**Three Credits - Course Requirements (total of 54 points)**

- ◆ Attend 2 days of the **Conference (18 points)**
- ◆ Keep a **Personal Journal** of the conference (**9 points**)
- ◆ Design, carry out, and report on an **action research project** that is substantive, school-based, and applies the knowledge gained through the course. (**18 points**)
- ◆ Include an **Annotated Bibliography** of required and additional chosen readings. (**9 points**)

### Requirements Include:

**Action Research Project Proposal (4 points):** Submit a brief but complete proposal of your project for approval before Summer NELMS. Please submit your proposal as a word document to Dr. Carrier prior to the beginning of Summer NELMS via email at [lcarrier@mail.plymouth.edu](mailto:lcarrier@mail.plymouth.edu). . The proposal is to be no more than one-page and provides an overview of your project (1 pt). Describe the setting your project will be implemented in and the relationship of your project to current programs and practices (1 pt). Explain how you, as an educational practitioner, fit into the setting (1 pt). Describe your role with respect to the project itself (1 pt).

### Action Research Report

- ◆ **Challenge and Opportunity (18 points):** Describe the specific focus/goals of your project (2 points) and what problem or opportunity you are addressing (2 points). Explain why you chose to respond to this opportunity both in terms of your school's needs and your individual needs (2 points). Please describe the project as it unfolds, the results of the project, and the criteria used to judge the project (8 points).
- ◆ **Summer NELMS Link (2 points):** Explain the connection between your project and the content of your Institute experiences.
- ◆ **Readings (2 points):** It must be clear from the content of the paper that you understand and have completed all of your required readings.
- ◆ **Annotated Bibliography (9 points):** Complete an *annotated* bibliography that includes the required readings and a minimum of five additional readings. The additional readings must be related to your project. Your paper should show evidence of what you've learned from your reading.

**Journal (9 points):** Write a journal in which you share your thoughts, observations, questions, and reflections that emerge before and from the Institute experience. Reflect on each activity and include the topic and the central messages of the presentation (2 points). Include the professional conversations and relations that you develop during the three days (2 points). Reflect on your Institute experiences and indicate how you will put what you have learned into practice in your own educational work in the month to come (5 points). Your thoughts, questions, and reflections are part of the formal evaluation.

**Writing** should be consistent with and will be assessed using Plymouth State University Graduate Studies Writing Assessment Rubric.

All work should be in word documents via email attachment to [lcarrier@mail.plymouth.edu](mailto:lcarrier@mail.plymouth.edu).

### Course Objectives: Summer Institute; Special Topics

The strands of the NELMS Summer Institute are designed to increase understanding of middle level best practices with specific issues associated with RTI and technology.

- ◆ Participants will be able to utilize the skills and understandings gained to support and promote a quality learning environment.
- ◆ Participants will be able to apply the strategies learned in a developmentally appropriate manner for middle level
- ◆ Using the skills and understandings gained participants will develop strategies to motivate and engage students in their learning.

- ◆ Participates will be able to effectively use classroom technology to support engaged developmentally appropriate learning environments.

### Required Texts

#### Strand A: Middle Level Education in a Digital Age

- ◆ Elliott, L., (2011). *Teach like a Techie*, Peterborough, NH: Crystal Springs Books,
- ◆ Lent, R. (2012). *Overcoming Textbook Fatigue: 21st Century Tools to Revitalize Teaching and Learning*, Alexandria, VA: ASCD.
- ◆ Pahomov, L., (2014). *Authentic Learning in the Digital Age: Engaging Students through Inquiry*, Alexandria, VA: ASCD.
- ◆ Pflaum, W. (2004). *The Technology Fix: The Promise and Reality of Computers in Our Schools*, Alexandria, VA: ASCD.

#### Strand B: RTI

- ◆ Allain, J., and Eberhardt, N. (2011). *RTI: The Forgotten Tier a Practical Guide for Building a Data-Driven Tier 1 Instructional Process*, Kansas: Rowe Publishing.
- ◆ Bernhardt, Victoria (2003). *Using Data to Improve Student Learning in Middle Schools*, Larchmont, NY: Eye on Education
- ◆ Fisher, D., and Frey, N. (2010). *Enhancing RTI: How to Ensure Success with Effective Classroom Instruction and Intervention*, Alexandria, VA: ASCD.
- ◆ Wright, J. (2012). *RTI Success in Secondary Schools*, Port Chester NY: Dude Publishing.

#### Strands A and B Select One Additional Option

- ◆ Crawford, J., (2012). *Aligning Your Curriculum to the Common Core State Standards*, Thousand Oaks, CA: Corwin
- ◆ Ferlazzo, L. (2011). *Helping Students Motivate Themselves*, Larchmont, NY: Eye on Education.
- ◆ Rotier, J., (2007). *Teaming a Handbook for Middle Level Learners*, Westerville, OH: AMLE.
- ◆ Tileston, D. (2003). *What Every Teacher Should Know about Student Assessment*, Thousand Oaks, CA: Corwin.

### Grading Scale

94 – 100	A	80 – 82.9	B-
90 – 93.9	A-	77 – 79.9	C+
87 – 89.9	B+	73 – 76.9	F
83 – 86.9	B		

**DEADLINES:** All course requirements must be fulfilled within one calendar year from date of registration. In order to be eligible for credit for Summer NELMS 2015 you must register by August 1, 2015.

**Cost Information:** Graduate credits are offered at a rate of **\$185 per credit** plus a **\$30** administrative fee. Graduate credits are available only to NELMS professional development event attendees.

**Registration:** Please return the PSU registration form with your full tuition payment along with a copy of your conference receipt from NELMS for enrollment for graduate credits.  
Mail graduate registration, payment and receipt to:

**Plymouth State University  
College of Graduate Studies – MSC 11  
ATTN: NELMS Registrations  
17 High Street  
Plymouth, NH 03264-1595**

If you have any questions, please contact Donna Arnold our liaison at (978) 557-9311  
E-mail at [darnold@nelms.org](mailto:darnold@nelms.org)