

EARN GRADUATE-LEVEL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CREDIT(S)

University of Massachusetts Global offers conference attendees the opportunity to earn graduate-level professional development credits. UMass Global will award 1, 2, or 3 semester hours of graduate-level professional development credit based upon event attendance and successful completion of follow up course assignments.

- 1 Attend your identified conference.
- 2 Register online for a 1, 2, or 3 credit course.
- 3 Complete the assignments to earn your credit and obtain an official transcript.
See chart below.

You will have three months from the date you register to complete the assignments.

1 Credit - \$50

2 Credits - \$75

3 Credits - \$100

ASSIGNMENT		STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS	1 CREDIT	2 CREDITS	3 CREDITS
1	Respond to the questions in the professional development reflection	CLICK HERE	YES	YES	YES
2	Identify three resources inspired by your professional development experience	CLICK HERE	NO	YES	YES
3	Reflect on a resource that will further your understanding of your professional development experience	CLICK HERE	NO	NO	YES
4	Create a project plan in which you apply information you learned to your daily work	CLICK HERE	NO	YES	YES
5	Complete your project plan and reflect on your experience	CLICK HERE	NO	NO	YES
6	Create an annotated time log	CLICK HERE	NO	YES	YES

What are graduate-level professional development credits?

Graduate-level professional development credits are not part of a degree program but instead are primarily used for professional advancement such as salary increment steps and recertification. Students should seek approval from appropriate district officials before enrolling in these courses.

QUESTIONS?

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ASSIGNMENT #1: PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT REFLECTION

Review your notes and materials from the professional development opportunity that is serving for the foundation of this independent study course. If there are multiple content areas, prioritize two or three you find most relevant to your work and goals. Use those areas for your focus in this course.

1. Provide a description of the professional development opportunity in which you participated.
2. Why did you select this opportunity?
3. Did this opportunity meet your expectations? Why or why not?
4. What was the most valuable information you gained and why was it most valuable?
5. What was the least valuable information you gained and why was it the least valuable?
6. How do you see this experience informing your short and long term goals.
7. Would you recommend this experience to a colleague? Why or why not?
8. Include other reflections as you see fit.

ASSIGNMENT #2: RESOURCE FORM

Locate at least three resources that can help you explore areas of interest inspired by the professional development experience. List each resource, and write 1-3 sentences about why you believe these resources should be on your “to read” or “to view” list. The resources may be books, journal articles, websites, video clips, movies, or other materials.

For each resource, please use the following format:

Resource title, author, date, etc. (Use APA formatting)

Brief 1-3 sentence explanation of why you believe this resource will help you gain further understanding of your professional development experience.

Additional resources may be added using the same format.

ASSIGNMENT #3: RESOURCE REFLECTION

Select one or more resources from your resource form. Please invest at least three hours for a three credit course. You may balance the time you invest when you work on your timelog. Some resources require more time than others. If you need more time to meet your time requirement for the credit hours you selected, you may gain additional hours by investing more time on your resources.

After reviewing your resource (s), respond to the following questions:

1. How did this resource expand the information I learned in the professional development opportunity (online course, workshop, etc.).
2. What questions and/or ideas does this resource inspire for me?
3. How will this resource inform my work as an educator?
4. Would I recommend this resource to a colleague? Why or why not?

The time you spend reading or viewing this resource and reflecting on it will count as part of your logged time for this course. Please enter this time on the enclosed Annotated Time Log.

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ASSIGNMENT #4: PROJECT PLAN

Create a project plan in which you apply information you learned to your every day work. Depending on your needs you might plan a project in a number of formats. Your project may be:

- a lesson plan
- a handbook or guidebook for students, colleagues, or parents
- a website, blog, wiki, video clip, or other media
- an assessment tool
- a detailed PowerPoint presentation (narrated if possible) and explanation of how it might be used
- a presentation
- other (if other, please contact your instructor for approval)

The plan must be a narrative of 3-4 paragraphs at minimum. Please include:

- why you chose this project
- what must be done in order to complete this project
- what you hope to achieve by completing this project
- how you would assess the success of this project

ASSIGNMENT #5: PROJECT DOCUMENTATION/REFLECTION

Complete the project you planned in assignment #4. Adjust the scope of the project to the time you have committed to allot to the entire course (45 hours for 3 credits). Check your annotated time log and budget your time appropriately.

The project you selected might be:

- a lesson plan
- a handbook or guidebook for students, colleagues, or parents
- a website, blog, wiki, video clip, or other media
- an assessment tool
- a detailed PowerPoint presentation (narrated if possible) and explanation of how it might be used
- a presentation (you would need to submit a video recording of it as documentation)
- other (if other, please contact your instructor for approval)

Reflect on your experience implementing the project by responding to the following questions and adding additional thoughts:

- What was the most valuable aspect of your work on this project?
- What surprises or unexpected challenges did you experience?
- If you had it all to do again, what would you do differently and why?
- How will this project influence your thinking, practice and goals in the future?

Minimum number of pages for reflection: 1 (single spaced, maximum 12 point font)

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ASSIGNMENT #6: ANNOTATED TIME LOG

Create an Annotated Time Log with a similar format to the one below. You may not include time spent on regular work-related or classroom activities for which you are already compensated. You may include time spent participating in the professional development opportunity and completing all assignments in this course.

EXAMPLE (from a workshop about creativity)

DATE	TIME	ACTIVITY	REFLECTION
May 12	1 ½ hours	Searched the internet for 3 resources to use for Assignment #2. I wanted to find articles about creativity for second graders, explaining rubrics to students.	I had difficulty finding information about creativity particularly as it relates to second graders. I found more about creativity for adults, but I was able to apply the information about adults to children when I combined it with information about developmental stages. I would like to do more to enhance students' creativity, although I am finding that the rules we enforce at this grade level may inhibit creativity.
May 15	1 hours	Brainstormed about the type of project I would like to do so I could begin my outline	I thought about lesson plans I could do with students and about coaching I could do with parents to help inspire student creativity. I settled on a homework assignment that I will send home with students to parents and ask parents to comment on as well.
May 16	3 hours	I thought more about the project I want to do, and I want to also consider doing a presentation for parents that I can do "live" with groups but also record and have available for them to view. I started to write a script for a recorded version.	It is difficult to determine my ultimate project. I have so many options, but I know I need to settle on one, and I can always expand my ideas after this course. It is funny that I am working on a project about creativity and having my own "battles" with being creative.
Total	5 ½ hours		

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