

ConnectedUniversity

Fact Sheet

This industry-leading online professional development resource, designed specifically for educators, offers subscribers around-the-clock access to courses, software tutorials, how-to tips, and instructional support.

*Best of all—because Connected University is completely Web-based, professional development can occur **at any pace, from any place!***

Our resources help educators:

- develop **superior instruction** techniques.
- integrate **powerful Web resources** in the classroom.
- use these resources to **enhance student learning**.

Connected University:

- **makes it easy** for districts and schools to provide effective professional development to faculty, while lowering costs and saving time.
- is **widely endorsed** by national associations, major universities, regional training centers and state departments of education, such as Texas, Michigan, Georgia, Mississippi, New Hampshire, and Illinois.
- **integrates seamlessly** into districts' existing professional development programs. is the **fastest growing** online professional development community—now with more than 80,000 subscribers!

Connected University's Premier Partners bring a powerful mix of resources to CU learners. Connected University is rich with content developed exclusively by Classroom Connect Education Specialists and premier partners such as the American Museum of Natural History and Tech4Learning.

Connected University Works!

After completing a CU course, eighty-nine percent (89%) of CU learners report that they have already applied their new skills to instructional practice or plan to do so.

- As reported by research firm Rockman, Et Al, July 2001

I judge a course not only on the practical skills that I have gained—and I have gained many—but also on the power of the concepts to keep me in a position of learning. And your course did that. It will have an impact on my teaching and professional development for years to come.

- Peter Crooke, Teacher, Lower Merion School District, Rosemont, Pennsylvania

I am impressed with the commitment of CU to providing course work which is relevant, interesting, and maybe even fun. I also like the 'practical' approach to project assignments; you can actually 'use' what you 'create' in the real world.

- Stephen F. Goffreda, Superintendent, Roane County School District, Spencer, West Virginia

The courses I've taken have helped me immensely in preparing lessons that meet state standards and infuse technology. My students are the real beneficiaries of CU!

- Cheryl Crow, Teacher, San Joaquin High, McFarland, California

CU Features and Benefits

Features	Benefits
Connected University's rapidly growing Catalog now includes over 65 guide-led, project-based courses.	Three, four, and six-week online staff development courses provide all educators—teachers, administrators, and specialists—with several options to meet their professional goals and schedule needs.
Short Courses cover the basics of computers, the Internet, or email in just three short weeks.	Reduces the time required to learn the basics.
Self-Paced Courses can be completed in as little as several days or over a few weeks.	Provides the most flexibility for learners to complete coursework in their own timeframe.
CU courses count toward re-certification requirements.	Learners simply submit CU course completion certificates to their districts for evaluation. CU is an approved provider in TX, IL, MI, GA, and other states.
How-To Center & Recipes4Success offer tips on executing Internet tasks and lessons on software applications from Excel to HyperStudio—all in an educational context.	Saves learners time by eliminating the need to search for tools or help when they need it most. Online resources are available 24 hours a day, so learners can work independently —when they're ready.
CEUs and Graduate Credits are available from such institutions as Adams State College, Cal State Bakersfield, Fordham University, Plymouth State College, and Texas Tech University.	Earn CEUs and Graduate Credits easily.
Subscription Model —CU is available for a one-year subscription.	Unlimited access to all of CU for everyone in a school or district, at a significantly lower cost than other traditional staff development programs.
Browser-based...always accessible!	Eliminates the need for teachers to leave students to attend in-services. Learners work on courses at their convenience—anytime, anywhere.
Administrative Management System provides online tools to monitor self-appraisal progress, resource usage, and enrollment, registration, and completion reports.	Manage program usage from your own computer with up-to-the-minute information on staff participation.
The BYOGuide program allows CU building-level subscribers to lead private sections of CU courses within their own school or districts.	Build local communities of and provide local mentoring to online learners by combining online learning and face-to-face training.
" CU ConnectedFiles " is our Web-based file storage and collaboration service.	Facilitates collaboration amongst learners, and between learners and course guides, to enhance user experience.
The Forums are the hub of learner and faculty interaction at Connected University.	Boost motivation of educators to complete courses through discussion, support, and collaboration with other online learners.
Self-Appraisals enable learners to measure their skills against national standards.	Helps learners determine the right course of study based on their current skill set—and, they can measure their progress at any time.
Classroom Connect's Activation Support Team helps with CU implementation.	A personal CU Activation Coach provides support for administrators right from the start.
Integration Workshops & Ongoing Customer Support	Secure results consistent with your investment, with the training and support that comes with every site or district-based subscription.

Continuing Education Units and Graduate Credit Hours

Connected University learners can select from a range of options to earn continuing education units or graduate credit hours for the work they complete in our online courses.

Graduate Credit Hours

All courses taken for Graduate Credits require a “wrap-around project”—usually some additional reading plus an action-reflection paper—in addition to the standard course requirements.

Institution Name	Grad Credits for 3-week courses	Cost for 3-week courses	Grad Credits for 4-week courses and 30-hour, 6-weeks courses	Cost for 4-week courses and 30-hour, 6-weeks courses	Grad Credits for 6-week courses	Cost for 6-week courses	Certificate Program
Plymouth State College	1.5	\$200	2.0 graduate semester hours	\$290	3.0 graduate semester hours	\$390	No
California State University at Bakersfield	No	N/A	No	N/A	4.5 graduate quarter hours	\$427.50	No
Adams State College	1.5	\$247.50	2.0 graduate semester hours	\$300	3.0 graduate semester hours	\$405	No
Fordham University	No	N/A	No	N/A	3.0 graduate semester hours***	\$600	No

***Fordham University confers graduate credit upon completion of specific 2-course sequences. See site for details.

Continuing Education Units (CEUs)

In order to receive CEU credit, learners must complete at least 85% of the course assignments. Learners are not required to complete any additional work upon completion of the course.

Institution Name	CEUs for 3-week courses	Cost for 3-week courses	CEUs for 4-week courses and 30-hour, 6-weeks courses	Cost for 4-week courses and 30-hour, 6-weeks courses	CEUs for 6-week courses	Cost for 6-week courses
California State University at Bakersfield	2.0 CEUs	\$120	3.0 CEUs	\$160	4.0 CEUs	\$200
Fordham University	2.0 CEUs	\$140	3.0 CEUs	\$190	4.0 CEUs	\$240
Michigan Virtual University*	2.0 CEUs	FREE*	3.0 CEUs	FREE*	4.0 CEUs	FREE*
Mississippi DOE**	2.0 CEUs	FREE**	3.0 CEUs	FREE**	4.0 CEUs	FREE**
Plymouth State College	2.0 CEUs	\$140	3.0 CEUs	\$190	4.0 CEUs	\$240
Texas Tech University	2.0 CEUs	\$120	3.0 CEUs	\$160	4.0 CEUs	\$200

*Michigan Virtual University credits are available for Michigan educators only, for free.

**Mississippi DOE credits are available for Mississippi teachers only, for free.

Learning Resources

Connected University offers a broad range of learning options to suit every educator's **interest, experience, and schedule**. You'll find comprehensive courses, "just-in-time" tips, and a growing collection of superior educational resources.

How-To Center

Our step-by-step instructions help educators master basic Internet skills.

Organizing Your Internet Work Station

- How to Create Electronic Portfolios
- How to Create Your Own Hotlist
- How to Download and Install Plug-Ins
- How to Download Files
- How to Manage Bookmarks
- How to Purge Your Browser's Cache
- How to Track Internet Resources

Net Communication

- How to Promote Collaboration on the Internet
- How to Participate in a Chat Room Discussion
- How to Use Good Netiquette

Email Applications

- How to Attach Files to Email
- How to Interact with Experts
- How to Set Up and Manage Mailing Lists
- How to Use Good Netiquette

Responsible Use of the Internet

- How to Cite Internet Resources
- How to Develop an AUP
- How to Legally Use Internet Resources
- How to Protect Your Privacy on the Internet
- How to Use Good Netiquette

Searching the Internet

- How to Choose a Directory
- How to Choose a Search Tool
- How to Choose a Search Engine
- How to Create Your Own Hotlist
- How to Evaluate Web Sites
- How to Search the Web
- How to Surf Safely
- How to Track Internet Resources

Recipes4Success

Recipes4Success walk learners through basic software applications to complete education-oriented projects.

1. Adobe Photoshop: Creating Screens for Multimedia
2. AppleWorks 6.0: Making an Integrated Presentation (Macintosh only)
3. AppleWorks: Designing a Newsletter (Macintosh only)
4. Excel 98/2000: Developing a Classroom Gradebook
5. Filemaker Pro: Building a Classroom Planner
6. FrontPage: Building a Classroom Web Site (Windows only)
7. HyperStudio 3.3: Creating a Mad Lib with HyperLogo
8. HyperStudio Animation: Animated Story Starters
9. HyperStudio Story: Creating Multimedia Stories
10. Inspiration: Analyzing a Narrative
11. Kid Pix Studio Deluxe: Visual Storytelling
12. Microsoft Access: Creating a Research Database (Windows only)
13. Microsoft PowerPoint 2001: Multimedia Reporting (Macintosh only)
14. Microsoft Publisher 2000: Creating a Travel Brochure (Windows only)
15. Microsoft Word: Creating a School Newsletter
16. Netscape Communicator: Classroom Collaboration with Email
17. PowerPoint: Multimedia Reporting (Windows only)

Current Courses

From basic computing skills and technology integration to subject-specific courses, our online, guide-led courses cover a wide range of topics. Many can be taken for graduate credit or continuing education units.

Curriculum and Instruction

- The ABC's of Writing: Success with K-2 Writing Standards
- Collaborating with Parents
- Comprehension and Communication: Success with 6-8 Language Arts Standards
- The Constructivist Classroom
- Creating High-Performance Classrooms
- Creative Assessment Strategies
- Cultures, Values, and Action: Success with 6–8 Social Studies Standards
- Dinosaurs Among Us: The Link to Birds - By the American Museum of Natural History
- Diversity of Fishes - By the American Museum of Natural History
- Earth: Inside and Out - By the American Museum of Natural History
- English Language Learners in the Mainstream Classroom
- Enhancing Classroom Learning with Primary Resources
- Exploration and Experimentation: Success with 3-5 Science Standards
- From A to Z: Success with K-2 Reading Standards
- From Newberys to Caldecotts: Success with 3-5 Reading Standards
- Frontiers in Physical Science - By the American Museum of Natural History
- Genetics, Genomics, Genethics - By the American Museum of Natural History
- How To Think About Life in the Universe - By the American Museum of Natural History
- Making Assessment Meaningful
- Paragraphs, Poetry, and Persuasion: Success with 3-5 Writing Standards
- Reading and Language Arts Online
- Sharks and Rays: Myth and Reality - By the American Museum of Natural History
- Social Studies Online: An Overview
- Student Projects: Vehicles for Powerful Learning
- The Study of Spiders - By the American Museum of Natural History
- Teaching Gifted Students in Mixed-Ability Classrooms
- Teaching Multiple Intelligences Through Technology
- Teaching to California Standards
- Teaching to Florida's Sunshine Standards
- Teaching to New York Standards
- Teaching to Standards
- Teaching to Texas TEKS
- Using Peer Coaching to Improve Instruction
- Using Technology to Support Literacy Instruction

Educational Leadership

- Admin I: Technology Leadership and Vision
- Admin II: Learning and Teaching with Technology
- Admin III: Technology Support, Management and Operations
- Admin IV: Technology Assessment and Evaluation
- Admin V: Social, Legal and Ethical Issues with Technology
- Assessment Results: Analysis, Application, and Communication
- Budgeting, Grants, and Finances
- Characteristics of Effective Schools
- First Things First: Leadership and Staff Development
- Online Faculty Training
- Tapping Your Leadership Potential to Power School Change
- Why Use the Internet in the Classroom?

Math

- Best Calculations: Success with 3-5 Math Standards
- Data Analysis, Statistics, & Probability
- Geometric Reasoning & Spatial Sense
- It Adds Up!: Success with K-2 Math Standards
- Math in the Middle: Success with 6-8 Math Standards
- Mathematics for Information-Age Decision Making
- Number Sense: Teaching About Fractions, Decimals, Ratios, & Proportions
- Patterns, Mathematical Modeling, & Number Theory

Technology Integration

- Classroom Applications of Teaching and Learning Online
- Computer Basics: Short Course
- Email Basics: Short Course
- Enhancing Classroom Learning with Primary Sources
- Evaluating Web Sites
- Getting Started with HTML
- Internet Basics: Short Course
- Internet in the Classroom: First Steps
- Message Board Basics: Short Course
- My First Web Page: Part 1
- My First Web Page: Part 2
- My Next Web Pages
- Networks and Your Schools
- PowerPoint in the Classroom
- Printer Basics: Short Course
- Quests: Creating Adventure Learning in Your Classroom
- Searching & Browsing Basics: Short Course
- Selecting K-12 Software
- Technology & Assessment
- Technology's Role in the Special Education Classroom
- The 21st Century Library & Media Center
- Troubleshooting School Technology
- Using Laptops in Your Classroom
- Using Technology to Enhance Teaching and Learning
- Using the Net to Create Thematic Units
- Virtual Field Trips: Exploring the World Without Leaving the Classroom
- WebQuests

TIF

- TIF 101: Policy and Leadership with Technology
- TIF 102: Foundations for Teaching, Learning, and the Curriculum
- TIF 103: Measuring What Counts
- TIF 104: Productivity and Professional Practice
- Troubleshooting School Technology

Connected Illinois

- Exploring the Illinois Five Applications of Learning
- Implementing the Illinois Five Applications of Learning
- Teaching to Illinois Standards

Bring Your Own Guide Program

Combine the power of Web-based learning and the effectiveness of a local learning community with CU's BYOGuide (Bring Your Own Guide) program. BYOGuide allows building administrators to authorize their local trainers to participate in CU's Online Faculty Training program and then to lead private sections of CU courses within their own school or district, providing opportunities for local mentoring and support of online learners.

The BYOGuide Program:

- links CU learning to face-to-face training programs already in place.
- encourages use of Connected University throughout a district or school.
- provides a cohesive, local community of practice.
- enables integration with local standards.
- allows long-term advance scheduling of offerings, which can be incorporated into school calendars.

Anytime, Anywhere Professional Development School

While all of Connected University's resources can be accessed anytime, anywhere, we have developed a special Anytime, Anywhere Learning Professional Development School through a partnership with Fordham University. The partnership is funded by a grant from the **U.S. Department of Education's Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE)**. We're introducing 25 curriculum-oriented and leadership-related courses over a three-year period through this partnership. The grant's objective is to provide professional development to K-8 teachers. Specifically, professional educators will gain expertise in employing standards-based teaching practice in the classroom, building a high-performance classroom, and developing strategies for online learning and leadership.

More...

Time Commitment The knowledge and skills gained will vary according to the amount of time participants can devote to the courses. Self-paced courses are designed to require 15 hours of "seat" work. Three-week courses are designed to require 20 hours of "seat" work. Four-week courses are designed to require 30 hours of "seat" work. Most six-week courses are designed to require 40 hours of "seat" work over those six weeks. The six-week courses provided in our Anytime, Anywhere Professional Development School require 30 hours of "seat" work.

Prerequisites Learners should possess basic computer and browser skills. Many courses require certain materials before the course begins. Some courses may require software applications (including plug-ins) to be installed on a learner's computer. See course syllabus for specific requirements.

Browser Requirements The CU site is optimized for Netscape Navigator 4.0 and Microsoft Internet Explorer 4.0.

System Requirements A Web-enabled PC or Mac. See above for minimum browser and memory requirements. Connected University courses are optimized to work under the most basic conditions, however, as with any Internet product, your online experience is proportionate to your CPU speed, available system memory, and your connection speed. While certainly not required, broadband access is recommended for the best results.

Assessment In ALL guide-led courses, learners are evaluated on their course participation and project.