



East Lansing  
Public Schools

Office of Educational Services, 841 Timberlane, Suite A, East Lansing, MI 48823

To: ELPS Staff  
From: Cliff Seybert  
Re: Course Offering  
Date: August 22, 2011

Please be advised that East Lansing Public Schools in partnership with Madonna University will offer a one (1) credit course entitled “Teaching Across Cultural Differences” this fall. This course has been developed to support staff understanding of cultural competencies that impact our work with a diverse student and family demographic. Registration information is included in this announcement.

Course Description:

This course is designed to allow participants to examine how socially constructed categories (e.g., social class, race, gender, sexual orientation, disability, etc.) are used to privilege some learners and marginalize others. Participants will explore pedagogies and instructional strategies for educating culturally diverse students and engage in critical reflection about what it means to be a teacher of culturally diverse students. Topics will include, but are not limited to, culturally relevant pedagogy, equity pedagogy, and culturally relevant teaching. Specific attention will be given to how race, class, and gender (as cultural identities) impact the teaching and learning process. Central themes of the course include culture, power, and difference. A focus on critical multicultural education as important for classroom learning and curriculum development is also central in this course. Since the course is designed to inform teacher practice, course material will include teacher and student narratives and focus on teaching for social justice as a way to provide equity in education for all students.

Scheduled dates for course meetings are (location to be announced):

October 20, 2011  
November 17, 2011  
December 15, 2011  
January 19, 2012  
February 16, 2012  
March 22, 2012  
April 19, 2012  
May 17, 2012  
June 14, 2012

Thursdays - 4:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.

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## Professional Development Program

### Graduate Credit Information

Madonna University's Professional Development Program is offering graduate credit to participants in East Lansing Public Schools' "Teaching Across Cultural Differences" training. You may earn 1 graduate credit for this professional development training.

The tuition is \$150 per semester hour. For program assignment specifics, or to register for graduate credit, please refer to our web site: [www.madonna.edu/pdp](http://www.madonna.edu/pdp). Registration MUST BE received no later than two weeks after the beginning of the training hours.

You will need the following information:

Course Name: Teaching Across Cultural Differences

Course #: EDU 5862.56

# of semester hours: 1

Please note: Since this PD offering spans the entire school year, your assignment will not be due to Madonna University until July 1, 2012.

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For questions regarding credit or the required assignment, please contact us:

Anne Morris, Program Director

Janice Centers, Program Secretary

734-432-5697

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