

Landmark Outreach and Canvas by Instructure Collaborate to Deliver New Online Professional Development Course to Educators

Press Release
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Pride's Crossing, Massachusetts -- November 15, 2016 -- Landmark School Outreach Program, experts in serving the needs of students with language-based learning disabilities, is pleased to announce a new online course on executive function. Responding to the needs of educators and students, the Landmark School Outreach Program is launching a new online course for general and special educators: [Executive Function: Impact on Academic Proficiency](#). All course material is delivered through the Canvas learning management system (LMS), offering users an integrated platform for taking online courses. Canvas by Instructure is the open online learning management system that makes teaching and learning easier.

The new course provides an overview of the components of executive function (attention, memory, emotion, motivation, and effort) and the impacts of having both a language-based learning disability (LBLD) and executive function deficits. This is the third offering from Landmark Outreach Online, in addition to [Language-Based Learning Disabilities: Strategies for Success](#) and [Comprehending Language: Reading and Listening](#). More than 600 educators have taken these courses to date.

Online course participant, Joyce Hooley-Bartlett, high school teacher and learning center coordinator, said, "What impressed me was that this online course is not just about giving teachers things to do but rather focuses on giving us the information from which we can create our own strategies with the students. Bottom line, Landmark trains teachers to know how to maximize learning for all students." All of the Landmark Outreach Online courses are developed and taught by veteran Landmark School teachers.

Executive function describes our ability to engage in goal-oriented behavior, and therefore students with strong executive function skills are better prepared to achieve academic proficiency. The new course provides an overview of the components of executive function (attention, memory, emotion, motivation, and effort) and the impacts of having both a language-based learning disability (LBLD) and executive function deficits.

"We're excited to work with Landmark Outreach to bring this important professional development course to teachers who work with students with language-based learning disabilities," said Jared Stein, vice president of Canvas Higher Education. "The more we can

help teachers strengthen their knowledge and abilities, the more we can help provide improved experiences for both teachers and students.”

Since 1977, the Landmark School Outreach Program has shared its proven, research-based methodologies with educators across the country and the globe. Given the shortage of special education teachers in the U.S. and the challenges they face, providing convenient, affordable, and effective online courses is imperative to give teachers the skills and tools they need to best serve the estimated 15% – 20% of students who struggle with reading, writing, speaking, and listening.

Landmark’s Molly Dugdale developed the new [Executive Function: Impact on Academic Proficiency](#) course. Ms. Dugdale has been teaching at Landmark School since 2011 as a science and tutorial teacher.

“This course was developed with the intention of helping educators better understand the components of executive function, and the impact of executive function deficits on academic proficiency,” Dugdale said. “By learning the course content, viewing practical instructional strategies, and completing interactive assignments, educators will be better prepared to meet the needs of all the students in their classrooms.” Dugdale adds, “The Canvas platform has been easy to use and makes the course content manageable and accessible for our participants.”

[About the Landmark School Outreach Program](#)

The Landmark School Outreach Program’s mission is to empower students with language-based learning disabilities by offering teachers an exemplary program of applied research and professional development. Our veteran teachers help educators broaden their thinking about how to help students learn by providing the bridge that links teachers with the evidence-based practices that improve student outcomes. Our professional development offerings include online courses, in-school consulting and workshops, summer seminars, publications, and online resources.

Learn more about Landmark’s Outreach Program at www.landmarkoutreach.org

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