

COURSE TITLE: REFLECTIONS & LEARNING FROM A SPECIAL EDUCATION & INCLUSION CONFERENCE (SENIA)

NO. OF CREDITS: 2 QUARTER CREDIT
[semester equivalent = 0.66 credits]

INSTRUCTOR: LORI BOLL, M.A.
Lori@seniainternational.org

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The education world continues to better recognize the diversity of the student population and their varied learning styles and needs. Attending a SENIA conference provides attendees with a variety of theories, resources, strategies, and opportunities to network with others in the field.

SENIA conferences introduce attendees to Universal Design for Learning and best practices in inclusion to ensure that all students are given the opportunities they need to be successful.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

As a result of taking this course, participants will:

1. Develop an understanding of Universal Design for Learning
2. Access resources to support best practices
3. Obtain strategies to use in the classroom setting to support all learners
4. Build Support Networks with others in the field

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Following are general requirements determining the granting of university continuing education quarter credit. To issue credit Antioch University Seattle requires 75% or better at the 400 level and 85% or better at the 500 level.

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| 1. Attendance and active participation in chosen workshop sessions | 40% |
| 2. Reading of articles, handouts, books or texts | 30% |
| 3. Satisfactory completion of all outside assignments | 30% |

Assignments

Please work on all the assignments below, and upon completion of all assignments, send them to Lori@seniainternational.org

All assignments must be turned in no later than 30 days after the conference ending date.

A. Information Acquisition

Assignment #1

Create a reflection chart where you briefly describe (1-2 paragraphs) each workshop you attended, and include the key ideas and strategies you took away from each session. [See this sample](#). Feel free to quickly add to it during the sessions and then later “clean it up” before submitting it.

400 Level Outside Assignments

Assignments # 2-3

All assignments must reflect class discussions and outside reading. Depending on your preferences and professional situation, complete **two (2)** of the following:

Write a 750-word paper where you reflect on the conference's overall experience and/or theme. Use your reflection chart from assignment #2 for assistance. Be sure to include the following: What were your wonderings about the conference theme before attending the conference?

- What is some new learning you took away from the conference?
- What connection can you make between all of the presentations you watched?
- What strategies have you learned that you could try in your classroom setting?
- What was your overall impression of the conference?
- What are your thoughts regarding the conference's theme?

AND/OR

- 1) Create a lesson plan focusing on one of the conference features of embracing intersectional, inclusive systems, inclusive practices, or agency and advocacy. Implement your lesson, and write a 1-2 page commentary about what worked well and could be improved.

AND/OR

- 2) Research articles (minimum of 2-3) that focus and elaborate on a specific learning experience from the conference. Write a 2-3 page paper on your findings. It should focus on one of the conference's main sessions, such as embracing intersectionality, inclusive systems, or inclusive practices that increase your understanding of that learning modality or process.

Example of Resources

Keynote Presenter: Katie Novak

Deep Dive Resources:

- *UDL Now! A Teacher's Guide to Applying Universal Design for Learning in Today's Classroom*
- UDL Teachers Guide from Novak Education
- Think Inclusive Podcast with Katie Novak

Assignment #4: (500 Level ONLY)

In addition to the 400-level assignments, complete one of the following assignments.

Option A) Presentation

Prepare a PowerPoint, Keynote, or video presentation on one of the topics discussed at the conference for an audience of teachers and administrators in your district/school. Include your suggestions for a plan of action to address issues discussed at the conference. If you are not currently teaching, make this presentation a general presentation of recommendations for schools. Presentations should be a minimum of 5 slides and a minimum of 3 minutes in length.

OR

Option B) Create an Assignment

Another assignment of your own design with the instructor's prior approval.

ASSIGNMENT FORMAT & DUE DATE

- Papers should be typed or word-processed, double-spaced, and emailed to the instructor.

- All assignments are due to the instructor within 30 days of the conference completion date.

HEADING REQUIRED FOR ALL ASSIGNMENTS

A heading is required; please use the following format.

Your Name:

Instructor Name:

Course Number:

Course Name:

Date:

Level: 400 or 500

Assignment #:

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

There is no additional reading required

QUALIFICATIONS FOR TEACHING THE COURSE:

Lori Boll, M.A. is an experienced Special Education leader with a personal connection to individuals with disabilities.

In 2003, Lori's son Braden was diagnosed with profound autism spectrum disorder. This milestone event changed her focus from teaching elementary students to advocating for all children and their education.

Lori's two Masters degrees are in Reading Education and Special Education. She taught for over twenty-five years in international schools, including American International School Riyadh, Jakarta International School, Concordia International School, International School Bangkok, and in the United States in California and Colorado.

She also created intensive needs programs in Colorado, China, and Thailand.

As the Executive Director of SENIA International, Lori enjoys supporting others on their professional development journeys.

Schedule

Please find the latest schedule on the [SENIA Conference website](#).