

Graduate Courses for Educators Winter / Spring 2023

Initiatives for Developing Equity and Achievement for Students (IDEAS)



All IDEAS graduate courses and seminars are currently offered virtually via Zoom. Educators from IDEAS member districts receive discounts on all course and seminar fees. Participants may earn credits from Framingham State University for graduate courses, for an additional fee. For more information about these offerings – including dates and costs – please visit <https://www.massupt.org/ideas-enroll/>.

Updated December 9, 2022

Graduate Courses (30-hour, 2-credit)

IDEAS 1: Anti-Racist School Practices to Support the Success of All Students

This course is designed to introduce educators to the complex issues raised by race and racism and their impact on student engagement and achievement. This course will provide educators with an understanding of racial identity and the importance of building authentic student teacher relationships. This course will also help educators increase their skills of cultural proficiency.

Instructors and Sections:

Claudia Fox Tree & Rebecca Smoler
Section C, Eight Wednesdays, 4:30 pm – 7:45 pm
January 25; February 1, 8, 15; March 1, 8, 15, 29

Jennifer Dirga & Seeta Durvasula
Section H, Four Saturdays, 9:00 am – 3:30 pm
March 4; April 29; May 20; June 3

IDEAS 2: Enacting Systemic Change in Educational Institutions

This course is designed to build upon the foundational theories and complex issues studied in *IDEAS 1: Anti-Racist School Practices to Support the Success of All Students*. Participants will study systemic change models and develop, enact, and evaluate a project to effect change in their educational setting, whether that setting is working with a small group of students, a classroom, a grade level, a school, or an entire district. Successful completion of IDEAS 1 is a prerequisite for the course.

Instructors and Sections:

Lateefah Frank & Rebecca Smoler
Eight Mondays, 4:00 – 7:15 pm
January 23; February 6, 27; March 13; April 3; May 1, 15; June 5

Graduate Courses (15-hour, 1-credit)

Difficult Conversations: Talking about Race & Racism with Students, Colleagues & Parents/Guardians

This course is designed to help educators develop a better understanding of ways to address and respond to issues of race and racism on a personal and professional level. Participants will consider the experiences of students and families from ethnically or racially diverse backgrounds in predominantly white schools, and will examine both the barriers to/challenges of talking about race/racism/ethnicity and strategies for engaging in productive discussions.

Instructors and Sections:

Edward Byrne & Dr. Paula Martin
Four Wednesdays, 4:00 pm – 7:15 pm
March 15, 22; April 5, 26

Transforming Curriculum through a Social Justice Lens

This course is designed for educators who wish to understand multicultural curriculum transformation using the model developed by James Banks and incorporating the Learning for Justice standards regarding identity, diversity, justice, and action. Participants will explore “challenging and changing the narrative” to include more multicultural perspectives, adapting pedagogy to be more culturally responsive, and challenging systemic racism and bias. Participants will then adapt/develop their own lesson/unit plan.

Instructors and Sections:

Claudia Fox Tree & Rebecca Smoler
Four Wednesdays, 4:30 – 7:45 pm
April 26; May 3, 10, 17

Seminars (6-hour)

We will add 6-hour Seminars on various topics this winter and spring as they become available. Please check our website for updates.

For more information about IDEAS, please visit www.massupt.org/IDEAS or contact Karen Thomsen (kthomsen@massupt.org) or Dana Mullaley (dmullaley@massupt.org).

For more information about any of the current offerings, including additional details about the courses and seminars listed here, please visit www.massupt.org/ideas-enroll.

Notice of cancellation must be given two weeks before the start date in order to qualify for a refund. Courses with insufficient enrollment will be cancelled.