



Educating Underserved Populations: A Focus on Poverty, Cultural Awareness, and Teaching Strategies

Sponsored by the International Center at Texas A&M University

Date: Saturday, March 4, 2006

Time: 8:30am-3pm

Place: Texas A&M University Rudder 501; A map and parking information will be included with confirmation letters.

CPE Credit: 6.0

Registration Deadline: Friday, February 24, 2006

Lunch will be provided for attendees. Please inform us, in advance, of dietary restrictions and/or other special accommodations you will need.

This is a workshop for Texas Educators, Grades k-12 and pre-service teachers, and will be limited to the first 50 registrants. The following topics will be covered.

Understanding Poverty

by Dr. Larry Kelly, Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Teaching, Learning and Culture, Texas A&M University

Schools and businesses use middle class norms and hidden middle class rules to operate. Students in poverty, both generational and situational, have separate norms and rules from the middle class. To reach these students we must be able to teach, support, and have high expectations. This lesson will be based on Ruby Payne's book *A Framework for Understanding Poverty*.

English Language Learners in our Schools: Cultural, Social, and Linguistic Factors to Consider

by Dr. Zohreh Eslami, Assistant Professor, Department of Teaching, Learning and Culture, Texas A&M University

In this presentation the uniqueness of English language learners in our schools in terms of sociocultural and linguistic factors will be considered. Examples will be provided to illustrate these differences and the audience will be involved in some of the challenges our English language learners face. At the end, some strategies for teaching ELLs in relation to the issues addressed in the presentation will be presented.

Writing (and Thinking) Through Geography

by Dr. Sarah Bednarz, Associate Professor, Department of Geography, Texas A&M University

This session will model concrete strategies teachers can use to improve students' ability to write (and think) about geography and other social studies. A framework will be introduced which students can use to self-check their own writings and to improve their communication (and thinking) skills.

Cross-Cultural Communication

by Linda Edwards, Director, International Outreach, International Programs, Texas A&M University

This session is designed to introduce participants to concepts of cross-cultural communication. The participant will be able to:

1. Identify non-verbal communication elements that may differ across cultures
2. Identify verbal communication elements that may differ across cultures
3. Identify cross-cultural components impacting communication processes by analyzing case studies.
4. Gain insight about culturally-based values and attitudes that influence behavior.

A deposit check of \$25 is required to hold your space for the workshop. Your check will be returned to you if you attend the full workshop. Cancellation of attendance 72 hours in advance will also ensure return of your deposit—less than 72 hours and your deposit will be retained. Please make your check payable to The International Center.

Return Registration Form and Check (Individual checks only) by Friday, February 24, 2006 to:

Texas A&M University
International Center, MS 1245
Presidential Library Complex
College Station, TX 77843-1245

For more information about this workshop or other educational programs at the International Center, call Marion Phoummarath, Coordinator of Educational Programs, at (979)862-6700 or e-mail mphoummarath@ipomail.tamu.edu.

Registration Form

*Educating Underserved Populations: A Focus on Poverty,
Cultural Awareness, and Teaching Strategies*

Name: _____ School Name: _____
Last Name First Name

Grade(s)/Subject(s) You Teach: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Street City State Zip-code

Daytime/Evening Phone: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail: _____