



## Decoding Deeper Learning

45 continuing education hours | 3 continuing education graduate credits available for additional fee

**Note:** This course is self-paced and self-facilitated. You will interact with your classmates and will receive feedback on your final project

Course Designer	
 <p data-bbox="245 1312 479 1377">Christopher Bronke @mrbronke</p>	<p data-bbox="602 867 1446 1654">An energetic teacher, presenter, and leader, Christopher Bronke brings a wealth of research, classroom, and leadership experience to professional learning while empowering participants to reflect deeply upon their own practice to facilitate growth and collaboration. As a practicing English teacher and department chair at Downers Grove North in Illinois, Bronke is incredibly passionate about supporting others in their learning. Bronke has held numerous teacher leadership positions at the national level including a seat on the Teacher Advisory Council for the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, and as the Associate Chair for the Conference on English Leadership. Bronke holds master's degrees in Teaching and Learning as well as Educational Leadership and has recently begun working on his EdD from Northern Illinois University in the field of educational leadership. His work has been featured in The Atlantic, Teaching Channel, the Chicago Sun-Times, Language Arts Journal of Michigan, Let's Recap and more. Additionally, his work has been highlighted by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, on EduTalk Radio, at the Conference on English Leadership, and by the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE).</p>

## Course Description

Students enrolled in this course will explore the concept of Deeper Learning, why it is needed, what it looks like, and how to do it. The modules are set up to take students through a process of understanding and doing so that, by the end, they are ready to create meaningful Deeper Learning experiences for their students. Course materials will cover both theory and practice, providing the understandings of key concepts and real examples from Deeper Learning classrooms.

## Course Texts

There are no required texts for this course; all needed texts are linked in each module along the way.

## Course Objectives & Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, students will:

- Understand the need for Deeper Learning in today's educational system
- Know what Deeper Learning is and what it is not
- Be able to design Deeper Learning experiences for their classroom

## Discussions

Discussions are important to your learning and help you form a community and connect with your peers. While your responses will not be graded, we highly encourage you to participate by responding and interacting with your classmates. You can contribute in writing or scale your voice by posting a link to your blog or a podcast or video you created. You can also post links to infographics, PDFs, audio and video files, and/or multimedia presentations. The options below may support you in creating your discussion postings.

- Write a traditional discussion post.
- Record a video or audio clip (please keep it to 3 minutes or less).
- Post student work and reflect on the contribution
- Create a multimedia presentation or visual representation like a vision board or sketch notes or use Canva to create an infographic.

## Final Project (Grad Credit Option Only!)

Your final project will be an opportunity to bring together everything you have learned. We will encourage you to **create** an amazing product to share with your **network**! Take a **risk** and share your learning in a new way - lots of options and choices available! We will provide feedback on a single-point rubric. Learn more about [single-point rubrics here](#).



Killing it!

Evidence of going above and beyond answering the essential question



You Got This!

The target/goal criteria



Almost There!

Evidence of working toward answering the essential question

Product is an original **creation** that:

- models an understanding of UDL
- is clearly organized
- answers the essential question of the module
- is appropriate for the task, purpose, and audience.

10 points

Meeting the standard, or going above and beyond, will earn you the full point value for the assignment.

# Course Modules

MODULE	Topics
	<p><b>Module 1: Why Deeper Learning</b></p> <p><b>Objectives: students will</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Understand why Deeper Learning is so important</li><li>• Discover the historical context of the educational system and how Deeper Learning came to be</li></ul> <p><b>Essential Question</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Why is Deeper Learning so important to the educational system?</li></ul> <p><b>Activities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Personal Reflection</li><li>• Self-assessment</li><li>• Choose 2-3 resources to deepen your knowledge</li><li>• Discussion: why you are interested in deeper learning and/or why you think your school/district should consider deeper learning.</li></ul>
	<p><b>Module 2: What Is Deeper Learning</b></p> <p><b>Objectives: students will</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Understand what Deeper Learning is</li><li>• Know what Deeper Learning is not</li></ul> <p><b>Essential Question</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What is Deeper Learning?</li></ul> <p><b>Activities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Personal reflection</li><li>• Self-assessment</li><li>• Choose 2-3 resources to deepen your knowledge</li><li>• Discussion: how do YOU define Deeper Learning?</li></ul>
	<p><b>Module 3: Where To Start: Considering What is Essential</b></p> <p><b>Objectives: students will</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Understand what “essential learning” is</li><li>• Be able to process through standards to determine what is essential</li></ul>

	<p><b>Essential Question</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What does essential learning look like in my class/school?</li> </ul> <p><b>Activities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Personal reflection</li> <li>• Self-assessment</li> <li>• Choose 2-3 resources to deepen your knowledge</li> <li>• Discussion: what is your biggest challenge with regards to focusing on essential learning and what might you try to address that challenge?</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Module 4: Who To Work With</b></p> <p><b>Objectives: students will</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand the wide range of collaboration that can help support Deeper Learning</li> <li>• Know that there are ways to collaborate even if the systems are not formally in place within their district</li> </ul> <p><b>Essential Question</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How does collaboration help a teacher design meaningful Deeper Learning experiences for their student?</li> </ul> <p><b>Activities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Personal reflection</li> <li>• Self-assessment</li> <li>• Choose 2-3 resources to deepen your knowledge</li> <li>• Discussion: With whom do you plan to collaborate and why?</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Module 5: How To Develop A Plan</b></p> <p><b>Objectives: students will</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand different ways to get started with planning a Deeper Learning experience</li> <li>• Be able to begin planning their own Deeper Learning experience.</li> </ul> <p><b>Essential Question</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How does a teacher plan a Deeper Learning experience?</li> </ul> <p><b>Activities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Personal reflection</li> <li>• Self-assessment</li> <li>• Choose 2-3 resources to deepen your knowledge</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion: How will you begin to develop plans for Deeper Learning experiences in your classroom?</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Module 6: How To Deliver The Instruction</b></p> <p><b>Objectives: students will</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand some of the instructional shifts needed for success in Deeper Learning</li> <li>• Be able to identify shifts in their own practice that are needed to support students in Deeper Learning</li> </ul> <p><b>Essential Question</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What shifts in instruction are needed to best support students in Deeper Learning experiences?</li> </ul> <p><b>Activities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Personal reflection</li> <li>• Self-assessment</li> <li>• Choose 2-3 resources to deepen your knowledge</li> <li>• Discussion: What is one instructional shift you plan on making to help create your Deeper Learning experiences and how you think this will help your students?</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Module 7: How To Assess: The Process and Product</b></p> <p><b>Objectives: students will</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Know the difference between assessment and grading</li> <li>• Understand the value of assessment for both the process and product</li> <li>• Know different ways to go about assessing the process and product</li> </ul> <p><b>Essential Question</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How does one go about assessing the Deeper Learning process and products?</li> </ul> <p><b>Activities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Personal reflection</li> <li>• Self-assessment</li> <li>• Choose 2-3 resources to deepen your knowledge</li> <li>• Discussion: What sort of shifts in your assessment practices might you now want to make to best support Deeper Learning? Why? How will you go about doing this?</li> </ul>



## Module 8: Final Thoughts, Key Takeaways, And Other Considerations

### Objectives: students will

- Reflect on all they have learned in modules one through seven
- Understand additional considerations for Deeper Learning
- Articulate their vision for their own Deeper Learning classroom

### Essential Question

- What is my vision for Deeper Learning?

### Activities

- Personal reflection
- Self-assessment
- Choose 2-3 resources to deepen your knowledge
- Discussion: What is your vision for YOUR Deeper Learning classroom?