



PBS TeacherLine® Adds Course Terms to Online Professional Development Program

Most popular PBS TeacherLine courses now offered eight times a year; new climate change course available during additional winter term

ARLINGTON, Va. (Feb. 9, 2012) – In response to increased interest from educators for more online learning opportunities throughout the year, [PBS TeacherLine®](#), the premier provider of online professional development for preK-12 educators, has expanded its course schedule to eight terms. PBS TeacherLine now offers additional terms that feature some of its latest and most popular online facilitated courses. Enrollment is currently open for the new winter term starting Feb. 29, 2012.

While typical self-paced online courses provide limited guidance for learners, PBS TeacherLine courses are facilitated by highly qualified, veteran educators. Facilitators provide critical support throughout the six-week-long courses that ensure learners have the support they need to take full advantage of the professional development experience. Learners such as Faith Hardison, a technology instructor from South Carolina, have said they appreciate having a facilitator available to add context and structure where it's helpful.

"The facilitator wrote announcements each week that were personalized for our class," said Hardison. "Each week I found myself looking forward to what the facilitator had to say about my projects, as I value her thoughts given her expertise in the subject matter."

The upcoming terms offer some of the most popular PBS TeacherLine courses, along with a new course on climate change that includes resources developed through a NASA grant. "[STEM 417: Global Climate Change Education for High School](#)" enables educators to teach climate change using a problem-based approach and STEM methodology. Teachers learn how to integrate dynamic digital media resources from NASA, PBS and other online sites into classroom instruction to capture students' interest and reinforce academic concepts.

Research conducted by Learning Point Associates, Hezel Associates, and professors from Old Dominion University show that PBS TeacherLine courses help educators boost their confidence and competence in instructional technology integration, and improve their content knowledge and instructional strategies. In addition, a recent two-year study conducted by Hezel Associates indicates student reading achievement increased after their teachers completed a PBS TeacherLine online professional development course. The research is the most compelling evidence to date that professional development courses translate to learning gains among students.

PBS TeacherLine was recently recognized for educational excellence by EdTech Digest, earning 2011 Cool Tool Awards in the STEM Solution and Professional Development categories. For more information about PBS TeacherLine and full course schedule, visit www.pbs.org/teacherline.

About PBS TeacherLine

PBS TeacherLine is committed to helping teachers acquire the skills they need to prepare students for a successful future. PBS TeacherLine provides high-quality, affordable professional development for preK-12 educators through facilitated, online courses, collaborative learning communities, and exemplary Internet-based resources. Currently, more than 100 courses across multiple subject areas are offered. Teachers can earn continuing education units, professional development points, and graduate credits for course completion. The courses have been developed in conjunction with leading education organizations, including the Mid-Continent Research for Education and Learning (McREL), Concord Consortium, and International Society for Technology in Education. For more information, visit www.pbs.org/teacherline.

About PBS

PBS, with its nearly 360 member stations, offers all Americans – from every walk of life – the opportunity to explore new ideas and new worlds through television and online content. Each month, PBS reaches more than 118 million people through television and nearly 21 million people online, inviting them to experience the worlds of science, history, nature and public affairs; to hear diverse viewpoints; and to take front row seats to world-class drama and performances. PBS' broad array of programs has been consistently honored by the industry's most coveted award competitions. Teachers of children from pre-K through 12th grade turn to PBS for digital content and services that help bring classroom lessons to life. PBS' premier children's TV programming and its Web site, pbskids.org, are parents' and teachers' most trusted partners in inspiring and nurturing curiosity and love of learning in children. More information about PBS is available at pbs.org, one of the leading dot-org websites on the Internet, or by following PBS on Twitter, Facebook or through our apps for mobile devices. Specific program information and updates for press are available at pbs.org/pressroom or by following PBSPressroom on Twitter.

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Media contacts:

- Marcia Foster, PBS TeacherLine, 703-739-8106, mdfoster@pbs.org
- Kristen Plemon, C. Blohm & Associates, Inc., 608-839-9805, kristen@cblohm.com