



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education

January 10, 2014

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Patricia I. Wright, Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUBJECT: Spring Graduate-Level Course for K-12 Educators of English Language Learners (ELLs)

As part of the Virginia Department of Education's ongoing effort to meet the state professional development requirements for Title III, Part A, Language Instruction for Limited English Proficient and Immigrant Students, under the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965* (ESEA) as amended by the *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001* (NCLB), a spring graduate-level course for educators of English Language Learners (ELLs) in kindergarten through grade 12 will be offered in collaboration with the University of Mary Washington. The graduate-level course, titled *TESL 532: Differentiated Instruction Across the Curriculum for English Language Learners*, will be held in two locations: 1) Roanoke City and 2) Hanover County. The course will be held from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. at each location on the following three Saturdays: face-to-face on February 8, March 22, and April 26, 2014. In addition to the face-to-face sessions, online sessions will be held on February 22, March 8, and April 5, 2014.

The focus of the course is to provide an introduction to effective strategies for differentiating instruction for ELLs in the mainstream classroom. Participants will receive three hours of graduate-level credit through the University of Mary Washington upon successful completion of the course.

The Virginia Department of Education will pay the tuition and book costs for all participants. The costs of travel, meals, and lodging, if needed, will be the responsibility of the participants.

Course participation at each site is limited to the first 30 teachers. To enroll in the course, please go to:

<http://education.umw.edu/professional/tesl-532/>

and follow the directions in the "Welcome" message. Logistical details will be available on the registration page.

If you have questions regarding registration, please contact Patricia Reynolds at the University of Mary Washington at preynold@umw.edu or (540) 286-8093.

If you have questions about the course, please contact Judy Radford, ESL coordinator, at the Virginia Department of Education, at (804) 786-1692 or Judy.Radford@doe.virginia.gov.

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