

# DIGITAL LITERACY IN THE CLASSROOM

## ONLINE COURSE SYLLABUS

### Course Description

The goal of this course is to support educators in developing digitally literate students and empowered digital citizens. The course is divided into five modules, focusing on the following topics:

- **WHAT IS DIGITAL LITERACY?:** What is digital literacy and how are digital literacy skills related to digital citizenship?
- **BEING HEALTHY AND SAFE ONLINE:** How do I develop and maintain a healthy and safe relationship in a digitally connected world?
- **POSITIVE ONLINE INTERACTIONS:** How can I foster positive online interactions within the classroom learning environment and beyond?
- **INFORMATION, MEDIA, AND NEWS LITERACY:** What are information, media, and news literacy and why are they important?
- **DIGITAL LITERACY SKILLS DEVELOPMENT:** How do I design learning experiences that empower students to develop as digitally literate citizens?

### Course Structure

This course consists of five modules including a culminating application activity. Each module includes a mix of interactive content and activities for exploration, application, and reflection. Examples of module activities include: a digital literacy questionnaire, discussion boards, exploring lesson plans, modeling digital literacy skills, and templates for application activities. The modules provide explicit instructions for how to complete activities, links to supplementary resources for further exploring content, and discussion boards for engaging with other course participants. The final project provides a chance for you to apply skills learned in the course to your own context.

### Course Goals and Outcomes

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

- model positive strategies for navigating, consuming, creating, and communicating in digital environments;
- adopt instructional strategies that support students' abilities to locate, evaluate, and interpret online information;
- design learning experiences that empower students (and colleagues) to be informed consumers, critical thinkers, and positive creators in the digital world; and

- *apply an understanding of interconnected technology ecosystems to engage students in solving problems and creating change.*

## Participant Profile

*The Digital Literacy in the Classroom course is designed for K-12 educators, including classroom teachers, instructional coaches, and anyone who works directly with students and teachers in a K-12 learning environment.*

## ISTE Standards and Competencies

*The course is designed and developed around ISTE's Standards, with a strong emphasis on the [ISTE Educator Standards](#), and [ISTE Student Standards](#).*

## Module Descriptions

### **MODULE 1: DIGITAL LITERACY AND DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP**

*In this module, you will explore the key concepts of what it means to be a digitally literate citizen. You will complete the Digital Literacy Skills Questionnaire and participate in discussions.*

### **MODULE 2: BEING HEALTHY AND SAFE ONLINE**

*In this module, you will explore how to model and cultivate digital well-being in yourself and others. You will complete a brainstorming activity related to digital well-being for you and your students and participate in a discussion on how to engage caregivers as partners in helping students be healthy and safe online.*

### **MODULE 3: POSITIVE ONLINE INTERACTIONS**

*In this module, you will explore how to develop a positive classroom community, learn about the benefits and challenges of online interactions, and explore virtual classroom connections and field trips. You will complete reflection discussions related to online interactions and connecting virtually with others.*

### **MODULE 4: INFORMATION, MEDIA, AND NEWS LITERACY**

*In this module, you will explore the concepts of information, media, and news literacy and why they are relevant to you and your students. You will participate in a discussion on media literacy, contribute to a Padlet on news literacy, and practice evaluating online information using the lateral reading strategy.*

### **MODULE 5: DIGITAL LITERACY SKILLS DEVELOPMENT**

*In this module, you will reflect on how digital literacy skills development is a component of your curriculum. You will complete a design template to plan a learning experience to apply what you learned in this course to your own context.*

## Completion Criteria

*To receive your certificate of completion, you must take and achieve a score of 80% or higher on the final assessment within one year of registering for the course.*

## Disclaimers

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NOTE: A variety of applications are highlighted throughout this course. Prior to using any of them with students, it is imperative that participants check the account requirements for each application against their school/district student data privacy policy to ensure the application complies with district policy. In addition, some applications' Terms of Service may require parental permission to be COPPA and FERPA compliant for students younger than 13 years of age.

Content in this course is subject to change at instructor's or ISTE's discretion.