Introduction to Structured Word Inquiry

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Description:

This six-week class (32+ hours) will introduce participants Structured Word Inquiry (SWI). SWI is a process for analyzing and developing an understanding of the underlying structure of the spelling of English words to help a student read and spell words. SWI is instruction that assists all students, those with or without dyslexia. Participants will have multiple opportunities to practice the concepts and strategies they learn.

Participants will learn how to support students using inquiry-based word investigations to understand the spelling of English words so instructors no longer exclaim "Well, English is just crazy, you will have to memorize that word?"

Goals:

Participants will be able to define morphology and be able to identify morphemes in words, including affixes, free bases, and bound bases.
Participants will be able to define etymology and the role it has in helping understand English spellings.
Participants will be able to define and identify graphemes and phonemes.
Participants will be able use the four questions in SWI to investigate and analyze English spellings, including so called "sight words."
Participants will be able to create a hypothesis of a words morphemes and collect evidence to support or negate their hypothesis.
Participants will be able to construct word matrices.
Participants will be able to construct and announce word sums.
Participants will be able to understand and explain the difference between spoken and written syllables.
Participants will be able to understand and explain the difference between syllable division and morphological divisions.

Evaluation:

- Participants will be required to take a pre-test, post-test and weekly quizzes
- A Certificate of Completion will be presented upon completion of all class assignments and a passing grade of the post-test.

Week 1 Topics:

- What to expect and what not to expect
- Dyslexia Overview
- Dyslexia and SWI
- PB & J simulation
- Simulation
- Introduction to SWI

Week 2 Topics:

- Morphemes and Word Sums
- Announcing Word Sums
- Overview of 7 Syllable Types and Comparison to Morphemes

Week 3 Topics:

- Etymology
- Introduction to Etymonline
- Suffixing
- "Sight Words"

Week 4 Topics:

- Creating a Lexical Matrix
- Schwa: understanding it, identifying it, teaching it
- Stress-timed versus Syllable-timed languages
- Connecting Vowels
- Practical Strategies

Week 5 Topics:

- How to identify bound and twin bases
- Homophones and the Homophone Principle
- How to Organize the Information for a Student – Student Binder

Week 6 Topics:

- Student Lesson Examples
- Functions of the final <e>
- What can SWI look like in the classroom
- What can SWI look like in a one-on-one environment

*NOTE: Topics may shift during the course to best facilitate learning of the group and additional topics may be added.

Graduate Level Extension Credits Offered Through the University of San Diego

Participants may register for 2.5 graduate level extension credits through USD for this course. An additional fee is paid directly to USD for the credits. These credits are optional and not a requirement for participating in the course. Interested participants will register for the credits after the course begins. Information for registering for the credits will be provided on the virtual class website once the course begins.