



Course Overview: EDUC 6968T

# Building Academic Language in the Content Areas

Grades 5-12

**Credit:** One graduate credit

**Course Description:**

Building Academic Language in the Content Areas is based on the practical book, *Building Academic Language: Meeting Common Core Standards Across Disciplines*, by Jeff Zwiers. The book and course focuses on research-based instructional and assessment activities that content teachers can use to build students' abilities to understand and describe the many abstract concepts, higher-order thinking skills, and complex relationships in a discipline. Upon reading this book in its entirety, educators critically reflect and analyze the book's content with the goal of selecting specific strategies for building academic language in their subject areas and will develop an implementation and assessment plan to put into action.

Recommended for teachers, 5-12

<b>Course Topics</b>	<b>Course Outcomes</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Importance of academic language in grades 5-12</li> <li>• Characteristic of academic language in the content areas</li> <li>• Research-based strategies that build academic language</li> <li>• The connection between academic language and higher-order thinking skills</li> <li>• Strategies for addressing the Common Core State Standards</li> </ul>	<p>By the end of this course, educators will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluate the importance of teaching academic language in grades 5-12.</li> <li>• Analyze strategies to promote academic language and thinking skills</li> <li>• Apply strategies to build academic language within the content areas</li> <li>• Reflect upon professional growth</li> </ul>

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## Method of Assessment

This online, self-paced course based on the book you selected. The course provides the opportunity to study several educational concepts and apply them to practical teaching situations. You will read the book in its entirety. Assessment is conducted by completing all sections of an Assignment Organizer, a 5-7 page reflective paper, that demonstrates that educators have met the outcomes of the course.

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## Course Materials

The text for this course is available as an eBook (electronic book) offered through Vital Source. You should receive an access code via email within 24-48 hours of registering. If you have not received this email or have any questions about your course materials, please send an email to [Inquiry@Canter.net](mailto:Inquiry@Canter.net) or call 1-800-669-9011 between 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Pacific time.

The course textbook:

Zwiers, J. (2014). *Building Academic Language: Meeting Common Core Standards Across Disciplines*. San Francisco: CA: Jossey-Bass.

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## System Requirements

- Operating System for PC: Windows XP®, Windows Vista®, Windows® 7 (32/64 bit or higher)
- Operating System for Mac®: OS 10.6® or higher
- Processor: 2 GHz, 32/64 bit or higher
- Memory: 2 GB of RAM; 4 GB or higher recommended
- Browser: Microsoft Internet Explorer® 8; Firefox 3.6 (For Mac: Apple® Safari® 4 or higher)
- Internet Connection: Broadband (DSL or cable) required
- Software: Microsoft Word®, Adobe Acrobat Reader® version 10 or higher (free)
- Monitor resolution: 1280 x 800 pixels or higher

**Note:** If you are using a Macintosh® please be sure and download the latest version of Firefox® from Mozilla®. It's free and the download should only take a few minutes: <http://www.mozilla.com/firefox/>

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Canter, a subsidiary of Laureate Education, Inc., is committed to serving the educational community with high-quality, graduate-level courses that blend research-based theory with practical strategies. Canter began with one groundbreaking guide on managing behavior in the classroom and, more than 35 years later, has helped more than 300,000 educators address the most critical issues in education while advancing their careers.

#### **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

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#### **ABOUT OUR PARTNERSHIP**

Canter offers its courses in partnership with Walden University, allowing you to benefit from Canter's quality curriculum in a self-paced format, while earning graduate credit from a leading accredited university.\* The course curriculum is developed and designed by Canter in collaboration with national education experts, while graduate credit is granted through Walden University, which assesses student work. Credit may be applicable for certification renewal and/or salary advancement.† Course credit may be transferable with prior approval from the university providing your advanced degree or planned program.

#### **Walden University**

The Richard W. Riley College of Education and Leadership at Walden University is a National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE)–accredited college dedicated to enhancing educator effectiveness. As a recognized standard of excellence in professional education for the preparation of teachers, administrators, and other pre-K–12 school professionals, NCATE accreditation ensures the college has met rigorous national standards set by the profession and members of the public.

The college, named for the former Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education, was identified by U.S. News & World Report as having the largest online graduate program in education by enrollment (May 2010). Walden students were awarded the fourth most TEACH Grants to students nationwide in 2010–2011, according to the U.S. Department of Education. The choice of more than 53,000 students and alumni, including more than 80 state teachers of the year, the college is also a proud partner of the National Education Association (NEA) Academy and a year-round sponsor of the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC).

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