



Course Overview: EDUC 6966T

## The Dreamkeepers: Promising Practices for African American Students

Grades K-12

**Graduate Credit:** 1 Semester Hour

*The Dreamkeepers: Promising Practices for African American Students* is based on the critically acclaimed book, *The Dreamkeepers* by Gloria Ladson-Billings. The author shows that culturally relevant teaching is not a matter of race, gender, or teaching style, but what matters most is a teacher's efforts to work with the unique strengths a child brings to the classroom. The author's mixture of scholarship and storytelling provides educators with concepts that challenge them to envision intellectually rigorous and culturally relevant classrooms that have the power to improve the lives of not just African American students, but all children.

In this course, educators critically reflect and analyze the book's content with the goal of selecting specific practices to apply in their classrooms, including practices toward closing the achievement gap and ensuring the success of all students.

Recommended for teachers, K-12.

<b>Course Topics</b>	<b>Course Outcomes</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Effective practices for engaging students from diverse backgrounds</li> <li>• Using a strength-based approach for supporting students</li> <li>• Strategies for implementing culturally-relevant teaching practices</li> <li>• Approaches to closing the achievement gap</li> </ul>	<p>By the end of this course, educators will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analyze strategies to close the achievement gap</li> <li>• Apply culturally-relevant teaching practices to content areas</li> <li>• Advocate for culturally-relevant schools</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:

Ladson-Billings, G. (2009). *The dreamkeepers: Successful teachers of African American children* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.). 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**

For more information about Canter graduate-level courses, visit [www.Canter.net](http://www.Canter.net) or call 1-800-669-9011.

#### **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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