

FREE ONLINE COURSE OFFERINGS FOR TEACHERS IN THE CARIBBEAN

MODALITY: FREE TUTORIZED AND SELF-PACED ONLINE COURSES

THEMATIC AREAS: INNOVATION AND MATHEMATICS

TARGET AUDIENCE: PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHERS

The Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI), in collaboration with ProFuturo Foundation, is pleased to announce that it is preparing to launch a series of five (5) free virtual professional development courses on innovation and mathematics for primary school teachers in the Caribbean.

The courses will introduce participants to the advantages of digital education starting from the basic level of understanding of the use of technology in innovative teaching practices to the professional understanding of the diverse options that virtual tools offer to support the teaching and learning process. The goal of these courses is to equip participants with the skills necessary to teach effectively in the 21st century.

This offering seeks to advance the mandate established in objective 2 of the second pillar of the [Inter-American Education Agenda \(IEA\)](#): *“Promote opportunities for teacher professional development”*.

ABOUT THE COURSES

These are flexible learning, short online courses with a time commitment ranging from 10 to 20 hours each. Participants will have free access to the ProFuturo learning platform and courses will include reading materials as well as instructional videos. Some of them will be offered tutorized, which would improve academic performance and retention. It would also encourage higher engagement and peer to peer collaboration. Those participants who successfully complete all requirements for each individual course will receive a Certificate of Achievement.

The current course offerings are:

- **Innovation Route**
 - Innovation – Basic Level
 - Innovation – Intermediate Level
 - Innovation – Advanced Level
 - Innovation – Professional Level
- **Mathematics for everyone - JUMP Math!**

INNOVATION ROUTE

The objective of this training route is to contribute to the development of Innovation as a fundamental competence that favors the personal and professional success of students, from the perspective of adapting, adopting, creating, and sharing. It is divided in 4 different consecutive courses: basic, intermediate, advanced, and professional.

Upon completion of the courses, participants will have learned:

- ✓ Digital literacy and use of basic digital tools to achieve innovative teaching practices,
- ✓ Innovative learning practices and classroom management using digital educational practices,
- ✓ Educational frameworks that meet student's needs for 21st century skills,
- ✓ The teacher as the agent of change - the teacher as the facilitator, evaluator, resource designer and motivator,
- ✓ How Apps and Blogs can change the way students learn.

Innovation - Basic Level (10 hrs):

- ✓ The System of Innovation.
- ✓ Characteristics of an innovative teacher.
- ✓ Mobile Learning.
- ✓ Bloom's taxonomy (digital).
- ✓ The Finnish Model versus the Japanese Model and practices in teaching and learning.

Innovation - Intermediate Level (10 hrs):

- ✓ Current trends in educational technology that can be applied in the classroom.
- ✓ How to develop a teaching outline based on creative and innovative educational tools.
- ✓ The role of the teacher in the 21st Century school.
- ✓ Creativity in teaching methods.

Innovation - Advanced Level (10 hrs):

- ✓ Transforming the classroom through innovation.
- ✓ The Finnish teaching model versus other teaching models.
- ✓ The key agents of change and innovation in the classroom.
- ✓ The characteristics of the 21st Century teacher.
- ✓ The use of technology and applications for creativity, problem solving and improving social well being.

Innovation - Professional Level (5 hrs):

- ✓ Analyzing various pedagogical methodologies.
- ✓ The traditional school vs the 21st Century school.
- ✓ How to design a pedagogical methodology that works for each teacher.
- ✓ Applying innovative experiences in collective construction of a school project.
- ✓ Stimulating change in teaching practices.

MATHEMATICS FOR EVERYONE – JUMP MATH!

This course is aimed at developing the skills of Mathematics teachers to make the learning process in the classroom dynamic. The study load is 20 hours in 10 Units all to be completed online. The course was first created in 2006 by Canada's Mathematics Genius John Mighton and later embraced by ProFuturo Foundation.

Upon completion of the courses, participants will have learned:

- ✓ Teaching and learning Mathematics using real situations - students develop critical thinking and help understand the world around them.
- ✓ Discover the psychological and cognitive barriers to learning Math.
- ✓ Change teachers' attitude by stimulating more interest in the teaching of Math and bolstering the teaching of Mathematics as a vocation.
- ✓ Discover the 10 keys to Math teaching.

Areas of concentration:

- ✓ Decimal numbering system and basic arithmetic operations.
- ✓ Fractions: adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing.
- ✓ Ratios and numerical proportionality.
- ✓ Geometric elements and flat shapes: equal sides, parallel sides, symmetry, angles and polygons.
- ✓ Measurements and the decimal metric system.
- ✓ The basic concepts of Algebra- numeric expressions, unknown numbers, equations.
- ✓ Problem-solving strategies - understanding problems, using a number line, using tap diagrams and patterns.
- ✓ Lesson preparation and resources for Math classes - planning and teaching a Math class, accommodating diversity and continuous evaluation.
- ✓ Mathematics at the service of the community - all students can learn Math.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

Permanent Missions to the OAS, Ministries of Education and/or educational institutions from the Caribbean interested in offering these courses to their teachers should express their interest in writing to Executive Secretariat for Integral Development. Please include in your correspondence the name and contact information of the focal point at the institution to coordinate next steps with GS-OAS-SEDI.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For further information on this opportunity, please forward enquiries to Mr. Luis Benitez (LBenitez@oas.org) of the Department of Human Development, Education and Employment (SEDI-DHDEE).