

Appendices

Appendix A

For recruitment

Study Circle Flyer

Contents

Study Circle Flyer

Study Circle
on
Learner
Persistence
in
Adult
Basic
Education

Why do some learners in adult basic education drop out while others continue with their studies?

What motivates learners to stay in class and reach their learning goals?

These questions are particularly relevant as programs and teachers struggle with establishing attendance policies and supporting students to persist. The National Center for the Study of Adult Learning and Literacy (NCSALL) is sponsoring a Study Circle to engage ABE, ESOL, and GED practitioners in discussing concepts related to learner persistence, motivation, and retention. Participants in this Study Circle will:

- Read and discuss articles on learner persistence, retention, and motivation, including NCSALL’s current research on the topic.
- Consider strategies for learning what forces affect the persistence of learners with whom you work.
- Discuss what the theories and practices mean for our own classrooms and programs.
- Provide feedback and practical suggestions to NCSALL.

The Study Circle is organized into three sessions of approximately three hours each. You will be asked to read two to four articles before each session for discussion during the Study Circle. There is space for up to eight participants. We ask that you attend all three sessions.

- In the first session, we will discuss strategies participants are using in their programs to increase learner persistence. We will then discuss “Power, Literacy and Motivation” by Greg Hart and “Getting Into Groups” by Michael Pritza to examine what these authors contribute to our understanding of the topic.
- In the second session, we will gain a deeper understanding of three perspectives on learner motivation, retention, and persistence by discussing “The K-12 Experience of High School Drop Outs” by Stephen Reder, “Stopping Out, Not Dropping Out” by Alisa Belzer, and an excerpt from *Passport to Paradise: The Struggle to Teach and Learn on the Margins of Adult Education* by T. Sticht.
- In the final session, we will read two articles by John Comings and other researchers: “Persistence among Adult Basic Education Students in Pre-GED Classes” and “Sponsors and Sponsorship.” We will also discuss strategies for increasing learner persistence.

The Study Circle is a staff development activity. CEUs or PDPs may be available. The dates and locations of the three Study Circle sessions are:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

If you would like to join the Study Circle, please complete this form and send it to: *[Facilitator’s name]*, NCSALL Practitioner Learner, *[Facilitator’s address]* by *[deadline]*. I can also be reached at *[Facilitator’s phone number]* and *[Facilitator’s email]*.

Name: _____ Position: _____

Home address: _____

Home phone: _____ Work phone: _____ E-mail: _____