



## Ashland University Course Agenda (2 credits)

July 9-August 9, 2025

### Course title

*Summer Institute 2025 - Making Learning Irresistible with Authentic Learning*

### Course Rationale

Deeper learning happens when learners are intellectually, culturally, and emotionally-engaged, and engagement often requires authentic learning tools tied to academic content. We inspire educators to **make learning irresistible** by fostering a culture of innovation through authentic strategies and transformational leadership. The Summer Institute and follow-up assignments offer teachers time to explore and reflect on authentic learning models like service-learning, PBL, STEM/STEAM, inquiry, and design thinking. These models and strategies boost student engagement, deepen learning (Hattie, 2023), and empower teachers to be creative problem-solvers. **DATES FOR YOUR**

**CALENDAR: JULY 9/10, JULY 15 or AUGUST 5 (attend one video call), AND AUGUST 6 (final due dates)**

### Questions? Connecting with Kristin Bourdage, Course

Instructor [kristin@partnershipsforall.org](mailto:kristin@partnershipsforall.org) or text at 614-327-5530

### Course Assignments and Schedule

- 1. Assignment 1:** Attend the full day of the Summer Institute 2025, Day 1, July 9, 2025  
**Assignment 2:** Attend the full day of the Summer Institute 2025, Day 2, July 10, 2025  
(approx. 16 hours both days)
- 2. Assignment 3: Learning Log** - Extend and personalize your learning with independent inquiry and interest, using our authentic learning and leadership multimedia HUB, and reflection in a learning log. Choose at least **THREE ITEMS** from our [multimedia HUB and menu](#) (What interests you? What kind of media?). Engage with **each of your choices and reflect on your personal connections to teaching and key takeaways in a learning log.** Choose any format for the learning log—Google Sheet, Slides, Docs, videos, etc -. Aim to update it regularly throughout the month after the institute and submit your file(s) to Canvas. (approx. 4 hours, 7/11-8/6/25). **Due August 6, 2025** **Looking for good reflection prompts?** Check out - [Project Zero Thinking](#) Routines
- 3. Assignment 4: Attend ONE video call** - Attend 1 synchronous session and mark your calendars (you'll receive both links to the video calls - **you choose 1: July 15, 4:00-5:15 pm or August 5, 4:00-5:15 pm.** The purpose of the call is to discuss, reflect, clarify, and support your thinking. (approx. 1 hour) - *nothing to submit here; just attend one of the sessions.*
- 4. Assignment 5: Create a planning artifact.** Reimagine a first-of-the-year activity, meeting, or learning experience through an authentic learning lens, applying the knowledge gained in the course. Your goal: Design a more engaging and authentic version of it. Describe what it looks like, explain the authentic learning features, and tell why authentic learning is a good

fit for your class/group. Submit your redesigned experience (lesson, meeting, activity, etc.) in ***any format and highlight your authentic learning ideas*** –outline, concept map, revised curriculum guide, video description, slide deck that breaks down your thinking, or a traditional written description. (4 hours) **Due August 6, 2025.**

**FINAL DEADLINE FOR ALL ASSIGNMENTS: August 6, 2025**

**Course contact: Kristin Bourdage, [Kristin@partnershipsforall.org](mailto:Kristin@partnershipsforall.org)**

**Kristin Bourdage will submit grades by August 16, 2025. Transcripts will be available at Ashland shortly after grade submission.**