

**Course Title:** NCLB High-Stakes Test Preparation

**Instructors:** Donna Walker Tileston

**Length:** 10 hours

**Dates:** Rolling admissions

**Prerequisites:** Bachelor Degree

**Number of credits:** 1 PLU

**Course Description:**

Today, as educators, we live and work in the age of No Child Left Behind and increasing expectations by federal, state and local governments for accountability in the form of improved test scores by ALL students. These initiatives have moved us from an educational philosophy that says all kids CAN learn, to a philosophy that all kids MUST learn. Approximately 105% of all state assessments are based on one thing: a comprehensive understanding of the critical vocabulary that is embedded within state standards and benchmarks.

**Units:**

1. How Did We Get Here?
2. Why Standards Will Survive
3. The Vocabulary of Tests
4. The Difficulty of Vocabulary
5. Power Tools for Teaching Vocabulary

**Objectives:**

1. Knowledge –at the end of this course the student will be able to understand:
  - a. The key to raising test scores
  - b. Using meta-analysis to determine the most effective ways to prepare kids for success on state tests
2. Skills –after this course a student will be able to
  - a. How to identify the key components of state tests within the participants’ own state standards
  - b. Know why vocabulary is difficult for students to master
3. Dispositions – they will appreciate out of this:
  - a. Which tools have the highest impact on helping prepare students for high stakes testing

**Methods of Instruction:**

- Video lectures and PowerPoint presentations
- Short answer quizzes
- Graded post assessments
- Final reflection question

**All steps listed under each topic must be completed to receive credit for the course. No partial credit will be given. Students must earn a minimum of 65% to pass the course.**

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**Percentage of Course Credit**

- Graded post assessments      70%
- Final Project                      30%

**KDS Rubric for GA courses (passing requirements: 65 points):**

<b>Component</b>	<b>Unsatisfactory (40 points)</b>	<b>Basic (50 points)</b>	<b>Proficient (60 points)</b>	<b>Distinguished (70 points)</b>
<b>Critical thinking post-work</b>	<u>Critical thinking post-work:</u>	<u>Critical thinking post-work:</u>	<u>Critical thinking post-work:</u>	<u>Critical thinking post-work:</u>
<b>And</b>	0-40% correct	60% correct	80% correct	100% correct
<b>Short answer quizzes</b>	<u>Short answer quiz:</u>  -Participant included no content from the course in his or her responses  -Participant did not address the questions posed	<u>Short answer quiz:</u>  -Participant included some content from the course, usually appropriate, in his or her responses  -Participant answered the questions directly, not always fully	<u>Short answer quiz:</u>  -Participant included appropriate content from the course in his or her responses  -Participant made thoughtful comments in direct response to the questions	<u>Short answer quiz:</u>  -Participant provided rich detail from the content of the course in his or her responses  -Participant made his or her responses to the questions personally meaningful
<b>Final</b>	<b>Unsatisfactory (5 points)</b>  -Participant included no content from the course in his or her responses  -Participant did not address the questions posed	<b>Basic (10 points)</b>  -Participant included some content from the course, usually appropriate, in his or her responses  -Participant answered the questions directly, not always fully	<b>Proficient (20 points)</b>  -Participant included appropriate content from the course in his or her responses  -Participant made thoughtful comments in direct response to the questions	<b>Distinguished (30 points)</b>  -Participant provided rich detail from the content of the course in his or her responses  -Participant made his or her responses to the questions personally meaningful

