

NCTRC

Fall 2026 Courses



North Country Teacher Resource Center

<https://www.northcountrytrc.com/>

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*****Important NCTRC Updates: Fall 2026*****

Following recent meetings with the NYS Education Department and NCTRC instructors, please note the following policy updates:

- 1. No Self-Paced Courses: The NCTRC will no longer offer self-paced course formats.*
- 2. PoG Alignment: All NCTRC courses will now align with Portrait of a Graduate (PoG) standards.*
- 3. Code of Conduct: A new participant Code of Conduct has been introduced (see page 3 of the catalog).*



NCTRC Course Participant Code of Conduct

By signing up for a course, you agree to abide by the following Code of Conduct:

Authenticity

Professional development requires genuine personal and professional reflection. AI may support brainstorming, but AI-generated work cannot replace independent thinking or original reflections.

Participation Requirements

Participants must do the following:

- Complete all assignments by the due dates
- Attend all required in-person hours
- Submit authentic, original work

Participants who fail to meet expectations, including incomplete work, missed hours, or using AI in place of independent work, will not:

- Receive in-service credit
- Receive a refund
- Receive a voucher for a future class

Created: 9/1/2026



Fall 2026

Beyond The Worksheet: Bringing Learning to LIFE!

Open to: preK-12

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: Hannah Bouayadi: Earth and Space Science Teacher,
Plattsburgh City Schools

Dates: October 4th - November 1st, 2026

Place: Online using Microsoft

Cost: \$100

Register and pay by: September 28th, 2026

Class limit: 20

1 in-service credit/15 credit hours



[Click Here to Register](#)

Are you tired of the old worksheets but love the concept? Come bring your old worksheets to life in Beyond the Worksheet. This is a project-based class where you will take an idea from a worksheet and make it something more! In this class we will find ways to engage our students, have them become critical thinkers, effective communicators and see creativity through their own eyes!



Fall 2026

Harvesting Engagement: Creative Fall Learning

Open to: preK-12

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: Jerri Charlebois: Special Education Teacher, Plattsburgh City Schools

Dates: October 4th - October 25th, 2026

Place: Online using Microsoft

Cost: \$100

Register and pay by: September 28th, 2026

Class limit: 20+

1 in-service credit/15 credit hours



[Click Here to Register](#)

Explore creative, fall-themed strategies to boost student engagement and classroom participation. Through discussion, reflection, shared resources, and practical application, participants will develop ideas they can use immediately to create fun, meaningful learning experiences for students.



Starting Five: Presidents Washington to Monroe

Open to: preK-12

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: Katie Terry: Social Studies Teacher, Saranac Central School District

Dates: October 7th - December 1st, 2026

Place: NCTRC & Online using Canvas

Times: 10/7 (4-7PM), 11/10 (4-7PM), & 12/1 (4-5:30PM)

Cost: \$200

Register and pay by: September 28th, 2026

Class limit: 20

2 in-service credit/30 credit hours

[Click Here to Register](#)

Explore the origins of the American presidency through an in-depth study of the nation's first five presidents, with a primary focus on John Adams. This 30-hour, 2-credit course combines three in-person sessions with asynchronous digital learning via Edpuzzle and curated supplementary materials. Teachers will expand their content mastery and walk away with dynamic strategies for the classroom. *Dinner will be served at the 10/7 and 11/10 in-person sessions.*





Fall 2026

Heroes from September 11, 2001

Open to: Grade 1-12

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: Marcia Newcombe: Physical Therapist, Plattsburgh City School District

Date: October 14th - November 16th, 2026

Place: Online using Google & Zoom

Time(s): 1 Zoom Meeting in Final Week (scheduled with instructor)

Cost: \$100

Register and pay by: October 6th, 2026

Class limit: 20

1 in-service credit/15 credit hours



[Click Here to Register](#)

This course will aim to share knowledge and stories about many heroes that were directly involved either during or after the September 11th attacks and rescue efforts, as well as survivors of the attacks. Participants will view and hear moving documentaries, videos, podcasts, and interviews. Participants will also have opportunities to explore virtual tours of the 9/11 museum in NYC. This course can help our students learn through these valuable models of empathy, courage, resiliency, and selflessness. *There will be a mandatory Zoom meeting the final week of the course.*



U.S. National Parks

Open to: preK-12

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: Amanda Bokus: Special Education Teacher, Saranac Central School District

Dates: October 18th - November 15th, 2026

Place: Online using Google

Cost: \$100

Register and pay by: October 12th, 2026

Class limit: 20

1 in-service credit/15 credit hours

[Click Here to Register](#)

Yellowstone, Yosemite, Biscayne, Badlands.... and more! Did you know that there are 63 U.S. National Parks? Join fellow educators as we learn about the history and ecology of some of our most popular National Parks. We will watch 6 National Geographic documentaries available for free on YouTube focused on different U.S. National Parks and investigate how and why we should teach students about these protected public lands. As the final project, participants will design and implement a lesson plan for their students based on one park of their choosing.





Fall 2026

The Ultimate Recipe For Learning

Open to: preK-12

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: Maura Trombley: Special Education Teacher, Plattsburgh City School District

Date: October 18th - November 9th, 2026

Place: Online using Google & NCTRC

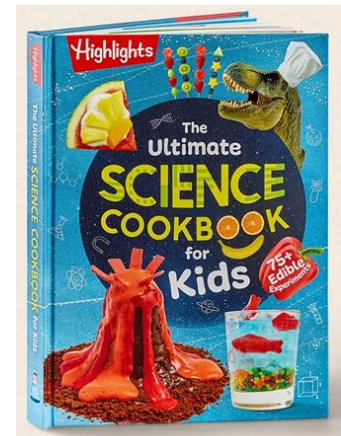
Time: November 9th, 4-7PM

Cost: \$100

Register and pay by: October 6th (Book Included) or October 12th (no book), 2026

Class limit: 15

1 in-service credit/15 credit hours



[Click Here to Register](#)

Discover how edible learning can transform student engagement across all grade levels and content areas. Using *The Ultimate Science Cookbook for Kids* as a foundation, participants will explore how food-based learning experiences can be adapted for K-12 classrooms while integrating science, mathematics, literacy, social studies, and SEL. The course emphasizes inquiry, hands-on learning, meaningful assessment, and creative ways for students to demonstrate understanding. The course features an interactive, hands-on in-person *Edible Learning Lab* where participants will experience and create food-based learning activities they can adapt for their own classrooms.



Fall 2026

Hugging Porcupines- Mike Anderson (Collegial Circle)

Open to: preK-12

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: April Myers-Lautenschuetz: Occupational Therapist, Plattsburgh City School District

Date: October 19th - November 15th, 2026

Place: Online using Google

Cost: \$100

Register and pay by: October 6th (Book Included)
or October 12th (no book), 2026

Class limit: 20

1 in-service credit/15 credit hours



[Click Here to Register](#)

Learn month -by-month strategies including how to set up routines, get back on track after school breaks, and how to finish strong. This class will deepen educator understanding of why "porcupines" struggle academically and behaviorally in school and how to support them. Topics include; relationship building, family connection, development of interpersonal skills, facilitating effective problem-solving conferences, supporting students who arrive mid-year and more. Assignments will include; case studies, discussion questions and supportive media assignments.



Fall 2026

Built To Belong

Open to: preK-12

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: Heather Tedford: 5th Grade Teacher, Saranac Central School District

Date: October 19th - November 16th, 2026

Place: Online using Canvas

Cost: \$100

Register and pay by: October 12th, 2026

Class limit: 20

1 in-service credit/15 credit hours



[Click Here to Register](#)

Students learn best when they feel known, valued, trusted, and connected to the people around them. But creating a classroom where students truly belong goes beyond simply making them comfortable. It means creating an environment where students feel safe enough to ask questions, make mistakes, disagree respectfully, struggle through difficult work, seek help, and try again. This four week online course asks educators to examine how their everyday interactions, routines, expectations, and classroom structure influences trust and belonging. We will examine ourselves as classroom leaders, then explore classroom culture and belonging, consider the effects of psychological safety and academic risk-taking, and finally, examine how students move from simply belonging to becoming active contributors in their classroom, school, and community.



Fall 2026

Wait...Let Me Think! Designing Learning That Builds Critical Thinkers and Problem Solvers

Open to: preK-12

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: Sarah Hackett: Lecturer, SUNY Plattsburgh

Dates: October 20th - November 17th, 2026

Place: Online using Google & NCTRC

Time: 10/20, 11/3, 11/17 from 4-7pm

Cost: \$100

Register and pay by: October 12th, 2026

Class limit: 20

1 in-service credit/15 credit hours



[Click Here to Register](#)

Move students beyond “getting the answer” to figuring it out. Explore practical strategies that increase cognitive demand, strengthen questioning, spark meaningful discussion, and turn everyday assignments into opportunities for authentic problem-solving. Teachers will apply, test, and refine strategies while designing classroom-ready learning experiences aligned to the NYS Portrait of a Graduate.



Fall 2026

From “Meh” to Motivated: Re-Engaging Students Through Connection, Relevance, and Ownership

Open to: preK-12

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: Sarah Hackett: Lecturer, SUNY Plattsburgh

Dates: October 22nd - November 19th, 2026

Place: NCTRC

Time: 10/22, 10/29, 11/5, 11/12, & 11/19 4-7PM

Cost: \$100

Register and pay by: October 15th, 2026

Class limit: 20

1 in-service credit/15 credit hours



[**Click Here to Register**](#)

Has your classroom gone from “Let’s do this!” to “Do we have to?” From “Meh” to Motivated is a hands-on professional learning experience packed with practical strategies to reignite student engagement, build ownership, and make learning matter. Explore fresh approaches to connection, relevance, student voice, and motivation that you can put to work right away.



Fall 2026

Fall in Love with Montreal-A Teachers' Guide to the City

Open to: preK-12

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: Hannah Bouayadi: Earth and Space Science Teacher & Jerri Charlebois: Special Education Teacher, Plattsburgh City Schools

Dates: November 1st - November 18th, 2026

Place: Montreal & Online using Word

Time: November 11th, 7am - 5pm (to Montreal)

Cost: \$250 (to cover entrance costs)

Register and pay by: October 22nd, 2026

Class limit: 10

2 in-service credit/30 credit hours

[Click Here to Register](#)



This hybrid course invites educators to explore Montreal as a rich source of cultural, scientific, and place-based learning. Through online collaboration, in-person city experiences, and a final classroom field trip plan, participants will develop practical strategies for bringing real world learning into their classrooms, even when traditional field trips are not possible.



Fall 2026

Kids These Days - Jody Carrington

(Collegial Circle)

Open to: preK-12

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: Shannon Rabideau: Special Education Teacher, Plattsburgh City School District

Date: November 1st - November 29th, 2026

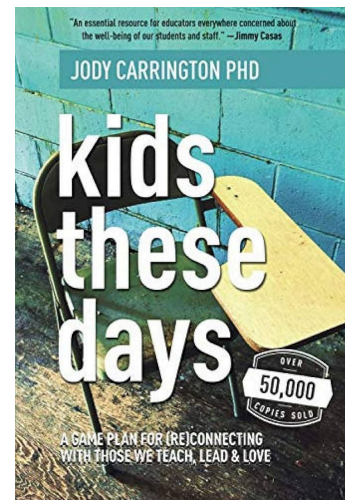
Place: Online using Google

Cost: \$100

Register and pay by: October 15th (Book Included) or October 27th (no book), 2026

Class limit: 20

1 in-service credit/15 credit hours



[Click Here to Register](#)

This book challenges the common narrative that today's youth are the main concern, instead emphasizing that children thrive when the adults in their lives—especially educators—are supported, healthy, and happy. This leads to better engagement and learning outcomes, reduced behavioral issues through empathy and understanding, stronger trust between students and educators and creates a culture of care that benefits all students, especially those facing challenges.



Fall 2026

AI in Education: Tips & Tricks for Teachers

Open to: preK-12

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: Eddie Vega, M.S. Ed: CVES/SUNY Plattsburgh

Date: November 2nd - December 7th

Place: NCTRC

Time(s): Nov. 2, 9, 16, 23 & Dec. 7 (3:30-6:30PM)

Cost: \$100

Register and pay by: October 27th, 2026

Class limit: 15

1 in-service credit/15 credit hours



[Click Here to Register](#)

This five-session workshop provides practical tips, strategies, and responsible approaches for using AI in education & content creation. Participants will explore AI tools for lesson planning, differentiated instruction, assessment, communication, research, presentations and more. Through guided demos & hands-on activities, participants will create reusable prompts, templates and resources while learning effective techniques to get the best from any AI tool.



Fall 2026

Let Them Move: Rebecca Kramer Fiscal

(Collegial Circle)

Open to: preK-12

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: Marcia Newcombe: Physical Therapist, Plattsburgh City School District

Date: November 12th - December 14th, 2026

Place: Online using Google & Zoom

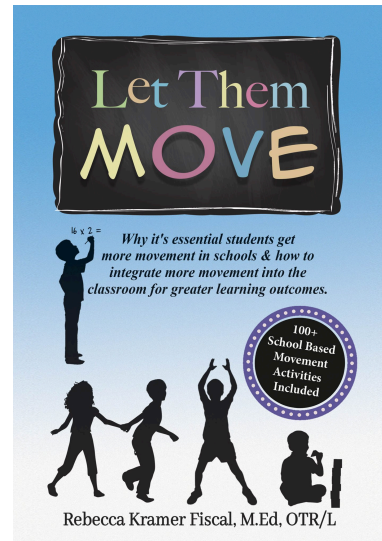
Time(s): 1 Zoom Meeting in Final Week (scheduled with instructor)

Cost: \$100

Register and pay by: November 1st (Book Included) or November 5th (no book), 2026

Class limit: 20

1 in-service credit/15 credit hours



[Click Here to Register](#)

Many of us have seen just how challenging it can be to sustain attention and focus when being expected to sit more than we are used to (for conferences and/or a long day of meetings)....This book, written by an OT (occupational therapist), addresses how critical movement is to learning and how focus, productivity, and cognitive sharpness can be enhanced through it. Movement and transitions can be included and embedded in our lessons and content without significant time instruction "lost". In addition to the book, the facilitator will share some additional movement activities. Participants will be encouraged to practice some of these resources and ideas with their students. *There will be a mandatory Zoom meeting the final week of the course.*



Fall 2026

Women and Space

Open to: preK-12

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: Amanda Bokus: Special Education Teacher, Saranac Central School District

Date: November 15th - December 13th, 2026

Place: Online using Google

Cost: \$100

Register and pay by: November 10th, 2026

Class limit: 20

1 in-service credit/15 credit hours



[Click Here to Register](#)

Women have a long, exciting history of being part of the Space program! In this course we will learn about the history and future of women and space. Participants will watch one of the following movies/documentaries: Hidden Figures, the Sally Ride documentary, Mercury 13, or Space Woman (all available on several streaming options for around \$5). You will produce 2 lesson plans for use with your students and investigate NASA resources that could be used with your class. Picture book recommendations will also be provided. Come join us as we explore Women and Space.



Fall 2026

Youth Voices - Immigration Stories

(Collegial Circle)

Open to: preK-12

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: April Myers-Lautenschuetz: Occupational Therapist, Plattsburgh City School District

Date: November 16th - December 13th, 2026

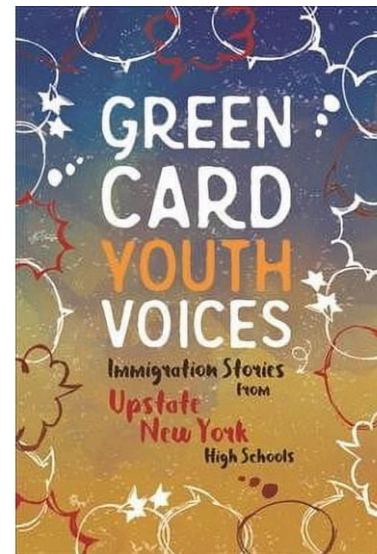
Place: Online using Google

Cost: \$100

Register and pay by: November 1st (Book Included) **or** November 10th (no book), 2026

Class limit: 20

1 in-service credit/15 credit hours



[Click Here to Register](#)

Build empathy, understanding and connection through reading the personal essays of 24 students from 15 different countries. Learn about their resilience and hope towards the future. Assignments will include discussion questions, videos, and journaling assignments.



1. Review Code of Conduct (found on page 3)

2. Register for a class:

- To register for a class, click on the link above each class description (if registering for more than one class you must register for each class separately).

3. Pay for class:

- Pay for classes right after you register using this link:
<https://www.paypal.com/ncp/payment/WXQV7GAB7KPY2>
- Online classes must be paid in full by the registration date listed on the class description page. Late registrations and payments will no longer be allowed.
- If you prefer to pay by check, write a separate check for each course. (Make checks payable to North Country Teacher Resource Center). Send the check(s) out as soon as you register since the postal service and SUNY mail can be slow.
- To pay by voucher, call or email the Teacher Center.
- Districts can pay using a purchase order. Call or email the NCTRC for help.
- Participants may also pay with cash, credit or debit card, or check in person during regular business hours.
- If the class does not run due to low enrollment, you will be refunded.

Please reach out to the Teacher Center with any questions:
nctrc5000@gmail.com or call us at 518-564-5000