**AITS Spring Conference 2021**  
**Field of Dreams**

EDUC 2000, 1 or 2 Professional Development Credit

**COURSE AND NUMBER**
Education 2000 - AITC Field of Dreams 2021  
**Prerequisite:** None

**CREDIT HOURS**
1 or 2 Professional Development Credits

**FEES**
$50 per Credit - Fee payable to NDSU

**INSTRUCTORS:**
Gail Benson, Phone: 936-336-5215 email: gailbenson51@gmail.com  
Jill Vigesaa, Phone 701-799-5488 email: jill.vigesaa@gmail.com

**RESOURCES:**

**DESCRIPTION:**
This course is designed to provide educators with agricultural literacy professional training in agriculture literacy through online workshops provided by the National Agriculture in the Classroom National Conference June 29-July 1, 2021. Twenty one-hour live streamed workshops are scheduled for the three day national conference. This course will utilize both the elementary and secondary level workshops provided by experts from across the country. Additional lessons and resources will be available from the National Agricultural Literacy Curriculum Matrix. The Matrix is an online, searchable, standards-based curriculum map for K-12 teachers. The course will provide an overview of strategies, materials, curriculum development, and research related to assisting the Pre-K-12th grade educators to better understand the interdependence of agriculture, the environment, and human needs through lessons in multiple curriculum areas: reading, writing, science, health, consumer education, mathematics, social studies, geography, STEM and more.

**NATIONAL BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL TEACHING STANDARDS**
The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards seeks to identify and recognize teachers who effectively enhance student learning and demonstrate the high level of knowledge, skills, abilities and commitments. This course aligns with all 5 of those standards.

1. *Teachers are committed to students and their learning.*  
2. *Teachers know the subjects they teach and how to teach those subjects to students.*  
3. *Teachers are responsible for managing and monitoring student learning.*
4. Teachers think systematically about their practice and learn from experience.
5. Teachers are members of learning communities.

OBJECTIVES:
1. Provide educators with current agricultural professional development training by National Center for Agriculture Literacy (NCAL) curriculum specialists to understand large concepts such as ecosystem balance, diversity, sustainability, watersheds and community.
2. Use workshops available through the National Agriculture in the Classroom Virtual Summit 2020 with current educational concepts to help teachers with group activities (large, small, and cooperative), provide for individual differences and learning styles, and evaluate students’ learning using agricultural content.
3. Develop understanding, thinking skills, creativity, and improve communication skills in the learning environment with students.
4. Use Workshops from the Virtual Summit and AITC Matrix lessons to demonstrate how they integrate into current curriculum.
5. Identify and use appropriate learning activities to integrate social concerns and social perspectives regarding food, land, and people issues.

TOPICAL OUTLINE

Day #1 Thursday, June 24th 9:30 – 11:30 AM (Zoom Recorded)
Participate in a 2 hour introductive and interactive video training with facilitators and colleagues

Day #2 Tuesday, June 29, 2021 - 7:30AM – 12:00PM
Field of Dreams: Elementary Level
Participants will participate in self-selected grade appropriate workshops as identified in the workshop descriptions attached. (Virtual Agenda)

Field of Dreams: Secondary Level
Participants will participate in self-selected grade appropriate workshops as identified in the workshop descriptions attached. (Virtual Agenda)

Day #3 Wednesday, June 30, 2021 9:00 AM CST – 4:00 PM CST
Field of Dreams: Elementary Level
Participants will participate in self-selected grade appropriate workshops as identified in the workshop descriptions attached. (Virtual Agenda)

Field of Dreams: Secondary Level
Participants will participate in self-selected, grade appropriate workshops as identified in the workshop descriptions attached. (Virtual Agenda)

Day #4 Thursday, July 1, 2021 - 8:45AM-11:00AM
Field of Dreams: Elementary Level
Participants will participate in self-selected grade appropriate workshops as identified in the workshop descriptions attached. (Virtual Agenda)
Field of Dreams: Secondary Level
Participants will participate in self-selected grade appropriate workshops as identified in the workshop descriptions attached. (Virtual Agenda)

Day #5 Date to be determined

Final session: Participate in an interactive video conference (Zoom) with each teacher providing an oral presentation

Requirements: ONE CREDIT = 15 hrs
1. Attendance: Teachers will participate in Introductory Session (2 hrs)
2. Attendance: Teachers will participate in Closing Session to include a final reflection and a presentation during the final session. (2 hrs)
3. Participate: Teachers will participate in six one-hour workshops or equivalent, with journaling activity time allotted between each session (9 Hours)
4. Class Assignments: Participants must complete a Curriculum Connections Worksheet and final reflection, within three weeks (by July 20, 2021) of the conclusion of the AITC Conference (2 hrs)

TWO CREDITS = 30 hrs
1. Attendance: Teachers will participate in Introductory Session (2 hrs)
2. Attendance: Teachers will participate in Closing Session to include a final reflection and a presentation during the final session. (2 hrs)
3. Participate: Teachers will participate in fourteen one-hour workshops, or equivalent with journaling activity time allotted between each session (21 hrs)
4. Create: Teachers will create a lesson for use with their current curriculum based on the National Agriculture Literacy Curriculum Matrix to include a reflection activity and to be presented during final session. (3 hrs)
5. Class Assignments: Participants must complete a Curriculum Connections Worksheet and final reflection, within three weeks (by July 20, 2021) of the conclusion of the AITC Conference (2 hrs)

Reflective Journal: Participants will complete a reflective journal entry for each presentation. Journals will include reflection on the presentation and application in the educator’s classroom or position.

Participation: Participants are required to be actively engaged during the class sessions through the questioning of processes and practices presented along with productive discussions about integration into the classroom curriculum, while addressing grade level standards and benchmarks.
EVALUATION: The students will be evaluated on the completion of the requirements with point values stated. The attached course rubric will be utilized for individual student assessment and letter grading.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: Any students with disabilities or other special needs, who need special accommodations in this course are invited to share these concerns or requests with the instructor as soon as possible.

ACADEMIC HONESTY STATEMENT: All work in this course must be completed in a manner consistent with NDSU University Senate Policy, Section 335: Code of Academic Responsibility and Conduct [https://www.ndsu.edu/education/teacher_education/academic_integrity_statement/](https://www.ndsu.edu/education/teacher_education/academic_integrity_statement/)
FLP Field of Dreams
2021 Reflective Journal for Virtual Presentations

You will join a minimum of six to fourteen of the twenty sessions held on June 29-July 1, 2021. Be sure you have pre-registered to receive the Zoom link. The sessions will be recorded for future viewing. You may view in real time or view the recording.

Upon completion of each session, you must complete a reflective journal for each. Please consider the following questions for your journals or add your own thoughts. When you are finished, these will be submitted to Gail Benson, gailbenson51@gmail.com, as part of your course requirements.

FLP 2021 Field of Dreams: Reflective Journal

Session Title:

Presenter(s):

What were the main concepts that you learned from this workshop?

What are some of the resources that were provided/shared during the workshop session and how will you derive maximum benefit in using them with your students?

How will the contents of this workshop be useful to you? What are some ways that you might be able to implement this learning into your classroom curriculum?

Following the sessions, we would like you to prepare a Powerpoint or other visual presentation that you can share with your peers during the closing class Zoom. Each teacher will have just 5-10 minutes to share. You can consider doing a “Top 10” overview of your experience or how you’ve been inspired to bring some new learning/concept/project based approach etc. into your classroom. This is a FAVORITE part of our courses 😊.
We also want to share some valuable resources with you to help you grow your classroom. The possibilities seem endless, but we hope that you will have the opportunity to explore a few great lessons and expand your repertoire of options available.

Let’s get started:

**View** the National Agriculture in the Classroom website at [http://www.agclassroom.org/](http://www.agclassroom.org/). We will have you spend some time exploring the vast resources you will find on this website! Click on the Teacher Center Tab.

- Go to the Matrix Home screen. Spend some time exploring and searching the lesson plans. Choose two lessons that piqued your interest and provide the names of each and a brief summary of how you could utilize these with your students.

Upon completion, please choose “SAVE AS” and rename the file with your last name, first initial plus 2021

After you have saved your document with this new filename, please EMAIL as an attachment to gailbenson51@gmail.com

This completed worksheet is due no later than July 20, 2021