

Online Teaching Methodologies (OTM): FAQs



What is the purpose of OTM? What is covered in the course?

The purpose of *Online Teaching Methodologies* (OTM) is to prepare teachers to teach with VHS Learning. The course focuses on the landscape of online learning, effective communication practices online, effective feedback, and meeting the needs of all learners, as well as introducing participants to the responsibilities and practical skills needed to effectively teach a VHS Learning class.



How long is the course? How much time will it take?

OTM is a 4-week-long course. Participants are asked to log into the course at least once each weekday for the duration of the course. On average, participants spend about 10 hours each week on OTM.



When does the course take place? Do I have to log in at a specific time?

OTM is an asynchronous course, which means that participants may log into the course whenever it works in their schedule. There are no set meeting times or virtual meetings. However, the course is paced, and there are weekly deadlines and collaborative assignments that require timely participation. OTM sessions are offered four times each calendar year.



Does the course use Zoom or another video meeting platform?

No – OTM is fully asynchronous and there are no required synchronous meetings. Each week, there will be optional synchronous meeting sessions for participants to meet with facilitators and VHS Learning staff. These meetings are not required.



Is OTM required if I want to teach with VHS Learning?

Yes – successful completion of OTM is required before being eligible to teach with VHS Learning.



Is there a cost for this training? Will I be paid for completing the training?

We offer this training at no cost to teachers who meet VHS Learning's qualifications and agree upon successful completion to be placed in our teaching pool. Participants are not paid for completing the training.



Can I earn credit for this course or use OTM for professional development?

Yes – participants who successfully complete OTM will earn certification of 45 hours of online, graduate-level, professional development. VHS Learning is an approved professional development provider in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the PD provider number will be listed on the certificate.

Participants who successfully complete OTM are also eligible to earn one (1) graduate credit from Post University. Graduate credit incurs a cost for the participant.