



Overview & Expansion of JLI's Effective Communicators Fellowship Program



Fellowship Program Overview

JLI's Effective Communicators Fellowship Program provides teachers with 30 comprehensive ELA lesson plans, 10 hours of self-paced professional development materials, and access to a virtual discussion board where they can engage with a peers in a learning network.

Admitted teachers receive a \$500 stipend for completing training and implementing the course. Teachers can apply a portion of their stipend towards earning one graduate credit (20 professional development units) through the University of Oregon.

The program revolves around journalistic learning, a research-based approach that equips students with the 21st-Century skills they need to navigate today's ever-changing media landscape, such as critical thinking, effective communication, media literacy, and digital citizenship.



Comprehensive Instructional Plan

Designed for 6th - 12th grade ELA classes, the Effective Communicators Program contains 30 comprehensive lesson plans, complete with printable handouts and multimedia materials. The instructional plan leads students through a journalistic learning project where they choose an issue they care about, conduct research, interview a local expert, and write and publish a report on the topic.

In addition to teaching 21st-Century competencies, the program meets over 90% of ELA College and Career Readiness Anchor standards and has been proven to develop students' journalistic skills like media literacy, critical thinking, and civic engagement.



Effective Professional Development

The Effective Communicators Fellowship Program prepares educators to confidently lead a journalistic learning project in their classroom and facilitates peer-network support throughout the unit.

Journalism experience is not required as JLI's PD sufficiently prepares educators to lead a journalistic learning project. The self-paced PD materials have been proven to deepen educator's understanding of journalism and civic media literacy.

Teachers also reported feeling prepared to build students' skills in objectively sifting through and evaluating information from different media sources.



Enduring Networks of Cohorts

Teacher fellows have the opportunity to build a network of supportive peers that endures beyond the Effective Communicators Program. JLI also sends educational newsletters weekly to current and past fellows.

Fellowship Cohort Growth & Expansion

Cohort #1 | 2021-2022

13

Teacher Fellows

1

of States
(OR)



"Every student I've spoken with who did the project last year has told me that it was the single most relevant and rewarding thing they have ever done. In the last few weeks, several students asked if they can come in and work with students who will be doing the project this year."

Cohort #2 | 2022-2023

23^{↑77%}

Teacher Fellows

3⁺²

of States
(OR, WA, ID)



"The thing that excites my students the most is talking about their lives and what they're noticing in the world; current events. And this Effective Communicators Course has allowed my students to take what they're excited about and what interests them and bring it into the classroom."



"This program demonstrated Gen Z's desire to work in groups and have autonomy. The conversations and ideas they came up with far exceeded my expectations! Their interviews tapped into a whole new "real" experience. I had students who don't ever say much really jump in and ask professional questions in a professional manner."

Cohort #3 | 2023-2024

54^{↑135%}

Teacher Fellows
Onboarded*

7⁺⁴

of States
(OR, WA, ID, NJ, IL, AL, AZ)



JLI's Effective Communicators Fellowship Program now reaches across seven states!