

UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN COLORADO
College of Continuing Education
Summer 2025

Title: Communication Matrix Strategies

Instructor of Record: Tanni L. Anthony, Ph.D. (Anthony_t@cde.state.co.us)

Instructor of Record Biography: Tanni Anthony earned a Ph.D. from the University of Denver in 2002 in the area of Child and Family Studies and Interdisciplinary Leadership. She has 35 plus years of experience in her teaching profession. She is currently the Director of the Access, Learning, and Literacy Team with the Colorado Department of Education's Exceptional Student Leadership Unit and serves as Project Co-Director of the Colorado Services for Children and Youth with Combined Vision and Hearing Loss Project, and as State Consultant on Blindness / Visual Impairment. Dr. Anthony has worked with the Vision Coalition, the CDE advisory specific to blindness/visual impairment statewide services, to design the seminar content. Key responsibilities include:

1. Delineate the purpose of the course.
2. Develop and define the content and sequence of competencies to be attained by the participants.
3. Identify the key presenters for the training session.
4. Develop and submit course proposal to UNC.
5. Contact school districts with course advertisement.
6. Plan for instruction site.
7. Meet with students to discuss the content and requirements of the course.
8. Monitor training sessions and take attendance.
9. Conduct follow-up discussions on the topics presented.
10. Provide on-site consultation on any on-site videotape case study analysis.
11. Conduct student evaluation on quality of instruction.
12. Evaluate students' papers and/or projects.
13. Assign grades.

Course Description for ACVREP website: Across two full days, teams will be given the opportunity to go through a comprehensive planning process and explore many resources. This is an opportunity to have valuable team discussions about their individual to collaboratively develop shared communication goals and establish which instructional strategies to target as they implement effective intervention.

Name of Program Activity: Communication Matrix Strategies

Location: Adams 12 Conference Center, 1500 East 128th Avenue, Thornton, CO

Dates: June 9-10, 2025

CEU Hours: 15 clock hours

Registration Contact Information: For more information, contact Dr. Tanni Anthony at (303) 503 4647 or Anthony_t@cde.state.co.us

Course Presenter: Nancy Steele is an Educational Consultant, with expertise in children with significant disabilities. She was a Project Specialist for the National Center on Deaf-Blindness for 14 years. She served as the Lead on the Literacy Initiative, which included the development of the website "All Children Can Read." Nancy also worked on the Open Hands, and Open Access Intervener Modules with NCDB.

Required Readings: Course handouts in electronic format will be sent ahead of the training.

Course Objectives: Following this course, participants will:

1. Understand the foundational components of building an effective intervention plan enough detail to explain to educational teams.
2. Explore and utilize resources found on the WV Communication Matrix Intervention Modules site
3. Be able to develop shared and customized communication goals
4. Develop a communication plan that the whole team will implement

Course Content for June 9, 2025

8:00 Welcome / Logistics and Introductions

8:30 Building a Foundation for Essential Strategies

10:15 Break

10:30 Continuation of Building a Foundation for Essential Strategies

11:30 Team Discussion: What Do We Know about this Student that Will Impact Communication

12:00 Lunch

12:30 Continue Team Discussion: What Do We Know about this Student that Will Impact Communication

1:30 Team discussion: What Did We Learn from the Assessment? What Is Important Now?

2:15 Break

Course Content for June 10, 2025

8:00 Check in-Questions from Yesterday?

8:45 Team Discussion: Embed Goals into Daily Activities

10:15 Break

10:30 Team Discussion: Developing a Communication Intervention Plan

12 Lunch

1:00 Team Discussion: Putting It into Practice

2:30 Break

2:45 Continued Team Discussion: Putting It into Practice

3:30 Group Report out

4:30 Dismiss

ACVREP Clock Hours – 7.5

Total ACVREP Clock Hours - 15

Rational for Graduate Credit: All course participants must be school-based professionals working with students with deaf-blindness and/or significant support needs.

Grading Method: In order to receive a grade of satisfactory, students must:

1. Attend both full days of the course. Attendance will be taken by the instructor during each session with attendance monitored during each full session.
2. Participate in course discussions with evident engagement.
3. Successfully complete and submit an assignment that is reflective of graduate credit by writing a reflection and application paper on the course content. The paper should be a minimum of 3 pages, double-spaced, 12 font. The paper should be inclusive of person-first language. The assignment is due to Dr. Anthony no later than **July 29, 2025**.

The paper should be emailed as a word document attachment to anthony_t@cde.state.co.us Do not submit via google doc or OneNote.

Students, upon completion of the course, will evaluate the course and its instructor using a standard UNC/ CDE approved form(s).

Students with Disabilities: Any student requesting disability accommodation for this class must inform the instructor giving appropriate notice. Students are encouraged to contact Disability Support Services at (970) 351-2289 to certify documentation of disability and to ensure appropriate accommodations are implemented in a timely manner.

Honor Code: All members of the University of Northern Colorado community are entrusted with the responsibility to uphold and promote five fundamental values: *Honesty, Trust, Respect, Fairness, and Responsibility*. These core elements foster an atmosphere, inside and outside of the classroom, which serves as a foundation and guides the UNC community's academic, professional, and personal growth. Endorsement of these core elements by students, faculty, staff, administration, and trustees strengthens the integrity and value of our academic climate.

UNC's Policies: UNC's policies and recommendations for academic misconduct will be followed. For additional information, please see the Dean of Student's website, Student Handbook link <https://www.unco.edu/dean-of-students/pdf/Student-Code-of-Conduct.pdf>

Course Withdrawal Information: In accordance with University and Colorado Department of Higher Education policy, if you drop this class **after June 25, 2025**, will be legally responsible for payment of full tuition since more than 50% of this course has been concluded. In order to be eligible to receive any refund of tuition, you must contact the Office of Extended Studies (1-800-232-1749) to formally withdraw from your class. Your refund, if applicable, will be based on the date of contact with our office. Withdrawals received via telephone during non-business hours will be processed and dated on the next working day. Failure to notify the Office of Extended Studies will result in UNC tuition being owed even though you do not attend or complete the coursework.