

# SYLLABUS FORM

**Workshop Title:** (limit to 4 words)

The End Of Molasses Classes book study

**Instructor(s)**

Lindsey Brewer & Lori Keleher

**Workshop Description (Proofread carefully. For courses offered to the general public, this will appear on the USF Web Site):**

In his New York Times Bestseller, *The End of Molasses Classes*, renowned educator Ron Clark challenges parents, teachers, and communities everywhere to make a real difference in the lives of our kids, by offering 101 revolutionary and classroom-tested ways to uplift, educate, and empower our children. Read this book to find out why so many across the country have embraced these powerful rules:

\*Set the electric tone on day one. \*Teach your children how to study - don't expect it to come naturally. \*Don't constantly stress about test scores.

\*Not every child deserves a cookie. \*Lift up your teachers. No, really, lift them up! \*If kids like you all the time, you're doing something wrong.

Ron Clark has been named "American Teacher of the Year" by Disney and was Oprah Winfrey's pick as her first "Phenomenal Man".

He founded the Ron Clark Academy, which more than 10,000 educators from around the world have visited for professional development.

Be Different. Be Bold. Join In.

**Workshop Objectives:**

Participants will...

...examine and discuss the Ron Clark Academy's 24 core principles and values.

...examine and discuss 12 ways parents can play an active role in their child's success.

...analyze 42 rules at both the building level and the classroom level to create the right climate and culture in your school.

...analyze 23 activities designed to involve parents and the community.

**Evaluation Criteria: (Include brief description of required assignments and evaluation methodology.)**

To earn credit for this course, participants will...

\*complete 5 quizzes (online, using Quia). Quizzes will count for 50% of the final grade in the course.

Quiz 1: Preface & Introduction ; Quiz 2: Chapter 1; Quiz 3: Chapter 2; Quiz 4: Chapter 3; Quiz 5: Chapter 4

\*respond to 10 blog posts (online, using Blogger) that correspond to the text and the TED talks. Blog Posts will count for the other 50% of the final grade.

Blog Post 1: Before reading this book, what did you know about the Ron Clark Academy?

If you knew nothing about it, what are your first impressions after reading the preface and introduction to this book?

Blog Post 2: In the CBS News story, "A Class Of His Own", we get a glimpse into the Ron Clark Academy in South Atlanta. What initial thoughts or questions do you have about this school? Should more schools be like this? Would you want to teach here?

Blog Post 3: RCA's Core Principles & Values: Consider Core Principle #14 "Push yourself to innovate beyond your imagination," and Core Principle #24 "Create lasting traditions." What is the most innovative lesson you've implemented with your own students? If none come to mind, push yourself to be innovative right now: how could you make a lesson you'll be teaching next week more exciting? What lasting traditions have you created with your students?

If you haven't, what lasting tradition could you implement with your students and how soon could you start this?

Blog Post 4: Austėja Landsbergienė, in her TED talk "Can Teachers Change The World?" states "Teaching is not a profession. Teaching is life."

Do you agree? Choose a quote from the video that you agree with and think needs to be shared with other audiences. Who needs to hear this?

Blog Post 5: The Role of the Parent in the Success of the Child: Choose two of the 12 statements (#25-36) to discuss. Which of these statements do parents of your current students most need to hear? Why? If you are a parent yourself, which of these statements did you most need to hear?

Blog Post 6: Shaka Mitchell, in his TED talk "Can Helicopter Parents Save Our Struggling Schools?" indicates we should be channeling the energy of parents and using it to benefit our students. How academically involved are your students' parents in your school? What are some ways parents could become more academically involved in your classroom?

Blog Post 7: Creating the Right Climate and Culture: Where do you stand on the issue of homework? How much do you give? How often is it given? How do you grade it? What is your rationale for each of these decisions? Please begin by stating the grade level of your students.

Blog Post 8: Paul Zientarski, in his TED talk "Want Smarter, Healthier Kids? Try Physical Education" discusses the links between exercise and learning. Do you think your students get enough exercise? If so, how much and how often are they getting it? If not, what could you do to get your students moving more often?

Blog Post 9: Reaching Out Beyond The Classroom: If there was no limitation on resources (money, time, etc.) where would you take your students to expand the borders of your classroom? What steps could you take to make this dream a reality? Or, if it seems completely impossible to you, how could you bring this place or this experience to your students?

Blog Post 10: Feedback: Share your thoughts about this course with us.

Date	Time (identify all break times)	Topic (Provide details regarding methodology for presentation of each topic.)	Instructors
Self-Paced Course		Chapters listed below are from the required text:	
Summer 2019		Culturize by Jimmy Casas	
Fall 2019			
Spring 2020			
	2 hours	Read the preface & introduction: p. i - xxvii	
		Complete the preface & introduction quiz.	
		Respond to Blog Post #1	
	1.25 hours	View the CBS News story "A Class Of His Own"	
		Respond to Blog Post #2	
	2 hours	Read Part 1: RCA's Core Principles & Values p.1-114	
		Complete the Part 1 quiz	
		Respond to Blog Post #3	
	1.25 hours	View the TED Talk, "Can Teachers Change The World?"	
		Respond to Blog Post #4	
	2 hours	Read Part 2: The Role of the Parent in the Success of the Child p. 115-160	
		Complete the Part 2 quiz	
		Respond to Blog Post #5	
	1.25 hours	View the TED Talk "Can Helicopter Parents Save Our Schools?"	
		Respond to Blog Post #6	
	2 hours	Read Part 3: Creating the Right Climate and Culture p. 161-252	
		Complete the Part 3 quiz	
		Respond to Blog Post #7	
	1.25 hours	View the TED Talk "Want Smarter, Healthier Kids? Try Physical Education!"	
		Respond to Blog Post #8	
	2 hours	Read Part 4: Reaching Out Beyond The Classroom p. 253-317	
		Complete the Part 4 quiz	
		Respond to Blog Posts #9 & #10	
		SEND AN E-MAIL INDICATING ALL ASSIGNMENTS ARE COMPLETE TO Transform@VentureComm.net	
Total Time (including breaks)	15		
Total Time (excluding breaks)	15	Total workshop time must include a minimum of 15 contact hours for each hour of college credit.	