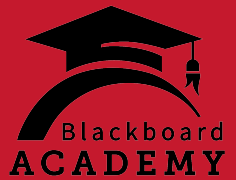




United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

Cluster Office  
for the Caribbean

# Global Education Coalition



## Blackboard Academy Pilot Project 2020

### Professional Development for Teachers for Blended Learning and Online Strategies



25 August 2020, 09:00 am GMT -5 Zoom: Meeting ID: 980 9798 1365 Passcode: 769863

#### Context

The UNESCO Cluster Office for the Caribbean in collaboration with the UNESCO's Global Education Coalition as response to COVID-19 is honored to partner with the Blackboard Academy.

Within the framework of this collaboration, and following the Caribbean Consultation with Global Education Coalition on 22 July 2020, Blackboard will implement a Professional Development project for teachers via Blackboard Academy.

Blackboard has offered its expertise to support distance learning for students, educators and schools in the Caribbean region, and to work with the education community to build a more resilient education system for the future.

#### Objectives

The objectives of the UNESCO-Blackboard Academy initiative to strengthen the professional capacity of teachers in the Caribbean is as follows:

- Enable a group of 40 master trainers to become facilitators for the course "Blended Learning and Online Strategies"
- Support the enabled facilitators to deliver the "Blended Learning and Online Strategies" to a group of up to 200 teachers (or 10 teachers per country).
- Contribute to the professional development for teachers provided by UNESCO, particularly in the area of Blended and Online Teaching and Learning.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of the proposed cascade model via a pilot implementation with a selected group of teachers in the English and Dutch Speaking Caribbean Countries.
- After the evaluation of the pilot, partner with the UNESCO team to plan future steps.

## Professional Development of Teachers

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The course that will be offered for this pilot initiative is the “Blended Learning and Online Strategies for K-12 Course”. This course provides teachers at elementary and secondary levels with strategies for designing the online classroom. Whether teachers plan to use a blended classroom or a fully online one, this course will help ease the transition in creating an online class environment that meets the needs of both students and teachers. The course content is not tied to any specific Learning Management System. Participants will be assessed and, if successful, certified by Blackboard in co-operation with its academic partners.

### Course Materials and Requirements

Participants will be enrolled in a fully, online facilitated course that is asynchronous delivery. Participants will work through a series of interactive content modules, practical and collaborative exercises, and assessment tasks. An electronic textbook will be provided. Participants will be required to complete assessment tasks to the required standards to demonstrate competencies. This course will continue to be available to participants for one year from registration.

### Who should attend?

This course is specifically designed for teachers, educators, teaching support staff, and learning or instructional designers working in, or intending to work in, a K-12 institution or elementary/secondary school levels in the Caribbean context.

### Course Modules

- › Introduction to Blended Teaching and Online Learning
- › Digital Teaching Approaches and the LMS
- › Designing E-learning Courses
- › Developing Digital Course Content
- › Information Literacy
- › Accessibility and Universal Design
- › Personalized Learning
- › Web and Video Conferencing Fundamentals
- › The Flipped Classroom in a Blended Environment
- › Support and Success of the Online Learner
- › Communicating and Building Course Enrolment

### Delivery model

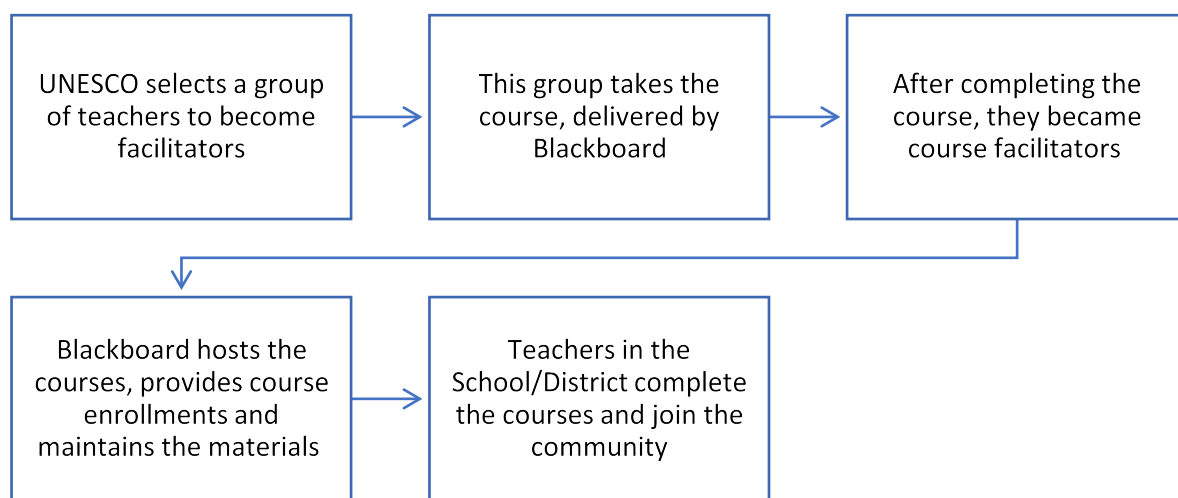
- › Duration: 4 weeks
- › Time Commitment: 30 hours
- › Facilitation: Yes
- › Pacing: Self-paced
- › Delivery: Online, asynchronous with a weekly webinar.

### Large Scale Model

This solution is a train-the-trainer model with access to materials to provide the school/district with the resources needed for a self-sustaining professional development program. The local team will deliver the educational materials at their schools/districts. Blackboard provides the materials, online course environment and administration, maintains the content updates, and trains the facilitators.

## Material Details and Highlights

- › The solution is hosted by Blackboard on Blackboard Academy. The content in the materials is updated and maintained by Blackboard.
- › Blackboard will train-the-trainers. UNESCO will select a group of up to 40 people to serve as facilitators for their school/district. These facilitators will have access to the Facilitators’ Kit and will also deliver the materials to their school’s/district’s teachers and staff.
- › All users will have access to the community to share discussions within their school/district and with other schools.
- › The online course will be available for a year.



## Project Plan 2020

	August	September	October	November	December
Deliver course to candidate facilitators	25 Aug				
Facilitators enablement (Courses 2 and 3)					
Evaluation of stage 1					
Cascade implementation (Selected facilitators deliver the course to 200 teachers)					
Pilot evaluation					20 Dec