Dear Tomorrow’s Teacher Participant:

Congratulations! You are beginning to explore a professional career that you may decide to later pursue in college. Currently, you are enrolled in the Tomorrow’s Teachers course at your high school. Tomorrow’s Teachers is an elective course developed by the Center for the Education, Recruitment, and Retention in South Carolina. The purpose of this one-year course is to provide high school students, like yourself, who have expressed an interest in the teaching profession, with an opportunity to actively explore teaching and learning through collaborative exercises, rich discussion, examples, and practice of effective teaching strategies.

We are equally excited to offer you the opportunity to also earn college credit at the completion of your Tomorrow’s Teachers course through Rider University’s School of Education, which offers over 18 nationally recognized undergraduate and graduate programs in the fields of education, school leadership, and counseling.

During the 2014-2015 academic year, students who are enrolled in the Tomorrow’s Teachers course can enroll in Rider University’s IND-101 Introduction to Education and receive college credit from Rider University. This unique opportunity not only allows you to explore the teaching profession, but begin your college career with three (3) credits already completed at a nationally accredited institution.

The special pricing for this course three (3)-credit course is $250. This course price includes all fees and online resources. All participating students in the Rider University IND 101: Introduction to Education may request student identification cards and are entitled to use the campus libraries, online resources, and computer labs.

The course taken through Rider University may be applied to your general elective credits to meet college graduation requirements. The student may list courses taken at Rider University as college courses on most college applications. It will be at the discretion of the receiving institution to accept or deny these credits.

**In order to be eligible for college credit, you must comply with the following:**

1. Fill out the registration form on page 5 and return it to your teacher along with a nonrefundable check made out to Rider University for $250. Please complete this application no later than Friday, October 17, 2014. Late registration forms will not be accepted.
2. You must receive a final grade of “B” or better from the high school teacher of your Tomorrow’s Teachers course and participate in an online discussion board through Rider University from November-June, which will be posted on Canvas, our learning management system. Specific requirements about the discussion board are on pages 3-4 of your packet.

3. If you do not meet either of these requirements described above, you will be dropped from the course IND-101 Introduction to Education, ineligible for the college credit and your course registration fee will be forfeited.

At the conclusion of the academic year, your teacher will submit your final grade for Tomorrow’s Teachers course to Rider University. If you earn a “B” or better in the Tomorrow’s Teachers course, successfully participated in the online discussion boards for Rider University and have paid the $250 course fee, the grade will be recorded on an official transcript as IND-101 Introduction to Education. You can obtain the form necessary to request an official transcript by visiting the link below:

http://www.rider.edu/academics/academic-support-resources/registrar/transcript-requests/lawrenceville-transcript-requests
IND-101 Introduction to Education
2014-2015
Discussion Board Requirements

Assignment: During the school year (November-June), there will be a series of fourteen online discussions, which will take place on Canvas. The goal of these discussions is to expose you to hot topics, issues and trends in education and provide you with a chance to engage in professional dialogue and thoughtful reflection with other future teachers across the state. Sometimes the discussion topics will require you to view and respond to a video or read and respond to an article, while others will just encourage you to reflect upon a specific concept you may have learned about in the course you are taking at your high school before posting your reply. You may also be encouraged to attach an artifact or a link demonstrating your understanding of the topic.

Requirements: On the first and fifteenth of every month (11/15/14 – 6/1/15) a new discussion topic will be posted. Students are required to respond twice to each discussion topic. The first response (called an initial response) must be made within five (5) days of the new discussion topic post. Then, a second post, which will be a response to someone else’s initial post (called a secondary response) must be made at least five (5) days before the topic closes. The current discussion topic will close the day that the new discussion topic is posted on the 1st or 15th of the month. You can access the discussion boards when they open from the Assignments link on the left hand side of the home page on our Canvas Tomorrow’s Teachers site. See below for more details and examples of the two types of posts. Failure to comply with these requirements will result in immediately being dropped from the course and you will be ineligible for college credit and your course registration fee will be forfeited.

Sample Posts:

Initial Post: Your initial post is your response to the question or prompts given. Before making your response you may have to view a video or read an article. Then, you will click on reply to the post made by Rider University and begin be titling the post with your name and labeling it Discussion # Initial Post and your high school.

Example: What are your thoughts about co-teaching? Please read the attached article before responding to the post. In addition, please resource your own experiences, examples, and course content on this topic as you phrase a two-paragraph answer to this question and/or prompt.

REPLY-

Suzanne Carbonaro, Discussion #1 Initial Post (Notre Dame High School)

After reading the article entitled “Co-Teaching in the Elementary Classroom” by Dr. Roger Smith, it seems clear to me that…

Secondary Post: Your secondary post is a response to one other student’s initial post. Try and vary to whom you respond (never respond to the same person twice) and reach out beyond your high school from time to time and respond to someone from a different school. When completing this post, please address the student by their first name (like a letter) and sign it with your name and your high school. Your response should be purposeful, perhaps taking note of the insightful answer of your peer, or adding to his/her answer with your own thoughts. Try to
connect with them and perhaps add an example or experience that relates to their answer or augments it. When responding to another student, click on REPLY to that specific student’s post. You should read at least a handful of posts before choosing to whom you will reply. We have more than 80 students participating in this program, so there will be plenty of responses to choose from- if someone has already responded to a particular student, look for a student who you connect with that does not have a response.

Example:

REPLY (directly to Frank’s post)

Dear Frank,

I really appreciated you mentioning your experience with your brother, who is a special education student. Reading your post helped me to better understand the necessity of co-teaching in today’s schools. According to the article we read, co-teaching is not always being practiced in schools and I think that it really does have many benefits, which can be seen through your example. Additionally…

Thank you,

Suzanne Carbonaro (Notre Dame High School)

Additional Information:

- It is very important to remember that this is a professional dialogue between future and current teachers. Therefore, you should be attentive to grammar, sentence structure, etc. This is not a place to use abbreviations and language that you typically use when texting or interacting on social media.

- It is also important to remember that it is your responsibility to keep up to date with your participation. Posts will open on the 1st and 15th of the month at midnight and close the 1st and 15th of the month at 11:59 p.m. You will not receive emails or announcements reminding you that you need to post. It is mandatory to participate in all of the fourteen discussion topics two times (posting an initial and a secondary response) in order to receive credit for this assignment.

- Failure to comply with these requirements will result in immediately being dropped from the course and you will be ineligible for college credit and your course registration fee will be forfeited.

If you have trouble posting, please contact our Office of Instructional Technology (OIT) at helpdesk@rider.edu or call 609-896-5000 ext. 3000.
Student Registration Form  
IND-101 Introduction to Education

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I understand that the submission of this form will allow me to register for IND-101 Introduction to Education. I have reviewed this form to be sure that all information is accurate. Any submission of inaccurate information that the University believes is material or intentional may result in withdrawal or dismissal from the University, without refund of any tuition or monies. I agree to abide by the standards and spirit of the Codes of Academic and Social Conduct. (For detailed information on Rider’s code of conduct, please refer to the Source, which is available online at [www.rider.edu/thesource](http://www.rider.edu/thesource).)

I have read and understand the requirements for the discussion board participation and agree to those terms. I also understand that an important part of being a college student is advocating for myself in a timely fashion should a situation arise that might warrant special consideration.

Student Signature  ________________________________  Date __________________

Parent Signature  ________________________________  Date __________________

This form must be submitted to your teacher with a $250 nonrefundable check made out to Rider University by October 17, 2014.