

MEMORANDUM

TO: _____
FROM: _____
RE: Request for Professional Development support
DATE: _____

I trust this letter finds you well. I am writing to seek support for a professional development opportunity that holds great promise for enhancing the quality of language education at our school. As we continually strive for excellence, I am excited to share details about a 12-week online program focused on Afrocentric learning strategies designed specifically for the world language classroom.

In recent years, the field of education has witnessed a growing recognition of the importance of diverse and culturally relevant teaching methods. With a keen interest in providing our students with a well-rounded and inclusive education, I am eager to enhance my expertise in Afrocentric world language learning strategies. These strategies not only contribute to fostering a more inclusive classroom environment but also play a crucial role in bridging cultural gaps and promoting a deeper understanding of global perspectives.

This professional development initiative is not only timely but also aligns seamlessly with the language learning initiatives set forth by the U.S. Department of Education. The program is crafted to address the diverse linguistic and cultural backgrounds of our students, fostering an inclusive and enriching language learning environment. By integrating Afrocentric learning strategies, we aim to strengthen our commitment to cultural competence and equity in education.

I have identified Bilingual Brown Babies(™) and it's *The Color of Language Program(™)* which aligns perfectly with our school's commitment to diversity and cultural awareness. This program, scheduled to take place as a hybrid course virtually with both asynchronous and live Zoom sessions, offers a comprehensive curriculum focusing on Afrocentric world language learning



strategies. The knowledge and skills gained from this professional development opportunity will undoubtedly benefit both me as an educator and, by extension, our students. Additionally, the delivery format will offer little disruption to my instructional time and class prep.

To implement this professional development opportunity at our school, we are seeking financial support to cover the registration fees for participating educators. The total cost for the program is \$3,000, and we believe the impact on our language education program will be invaluable.

I am confident that investing in this professional development opportunity will not only enrich our language instruction but also contribute to the broader goals outlined by the U.S. Department of Education in language learning initiatives. The skills and perspectives gained will undoubtedly enhance the cultural responsiveness of our language curriculum, ultimately benefiting our diverse student body.

Integrating Afrocentric language learning strategies into the curriculum can make language learning more engaging and relatable for students, as it connects language acquisition cultural richness, and diversity. Professional development in Afrocentric strategies equips teachers with a diverse set of instructional methods, allowing for more dynamic and effective language instruction tailored to the cultural context.

I have attached detailed information about the program, including a breakdown of the associated costs and the anticipated benefits for our students. I believe that my attendance at this event will contribute significantly to our school's commitment to providing a culturally enriched education.

I kindly request your support in securing the necessary funds to attend this professional development opportunity. Your assistance will not only enhance the quality of education our students receive but will also contribute to the overall growth and success of our school community.



Thank you for considering this request. I am available to discuss this further at your convenience. Your support will undoubtedly make a significant impact on the professional growth of our language educators and, by extension, the educational experience of our students.

Sincerely,





THE COLOR OF LANGUAGE ONLINE COURSE (™) - 12-WEEK VIRTUAL COURSE

- Are you overwhelmed by unnecessary scrutiny and feel your students of color are suffering? I feel like I'm teaching with one hand behind my back, blindfolded, and with a muzzle. I don't submit complete lesson plans for fear one word will trigger a call to the principal."
- Do you find your students of color are trying to hurry up and get out of my language classes and requirements? It doesn't help that the political climate devalues their very presence more and more each day.
- Have you had difficulty finding ways to include Black history into your world language content that is meaningful AND impactful and not just in February?

In just 12 weeks, The Color of Language Online Course (™) will...

- Prepare pre-service and early career world language educators to incorporate Afrocentric pedagogy to benefit ALL the children in their classrooms.
- Develop an understanding of how student knowledge assets, family knowledge, and cultural awareness are vital to target language retention
- Provide strategies and tools that engage agency, cultural identity, and creativity in the world language classroom



THE DETAILS:



Who: Secondary world language teachers teaching Spanish or French



What: online course self-directed

You'll leave **The Color of Language Online Course (™)** with the following:

1. Weekly online asynchronous trainings
2. Monthly "Swag Strategy Sessions"
3. Mapping Language Ancestry recorded video workshop
4. Language Swag Workshop Video
5. **Las Mantas:** A lesson idea and activity that incorporates the rich Black history of quilt-making and identity for your target language
6. Theory-based culturally sustainable teaching practices that can be immediately implemented in the classroom

\$2,100 value

What they say about Dr. Kami Anderson:

"Dr. Anderson's high energy in her presentation is wonderful, but the way she took care to embody our conference theme in her talk really showed how she nurtures every teacher she works with. We are energized and equipped to serve our populations better!"

- **The New York State Association of Bilingual Educators**

"I have never felt so equipped to teach my kids what I want to teach! Dr. Anderson is gifted with aligning Black history to language content!"

- **Ms. Salaam, middle school Spanish teacher**

"OMG! Usually, when we get PD, it's someone who either only knows one language or hasn't been in the classroom in forever. Dr. Anderson gave us examples that could be used in all of our language classes, even GERMAN!"



They were relevant and easy-to-apply. She really made us sit in our own awareness which, although hard, has really helped my teaching.”

- Illinois State Charter School teacher



When: During the academic calendar year. Live Q&As available once in the fall and once in the spring



Where: online



How:

Before	During	After
<p>Mapping Language Ancestry pre-recorded workshop video</p> <p>Guidebook with lesson ideas</p> <p>Easy Reader PDFs to use to promote literacy in the target language for your classroom</p> <p>Kwanzaa Kit in the target language</p> <p>Copy of <i>Linguistic Justice: Black Language, Literacy, Identity, and Pedagogy</i> by Dr. April Baker-Bell</p>	<p>Live Swag Strategy Sessions with Q&A at least once a month</p> <p>Introductions (1 week)</p> <p>Module 1 (2 weeks) - Identity Intersections</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Live Q&A Week 3 <p>Module 2 (2 weeks) - Unschooling the Teacher and Student</p> <p>Module 3 (2 weeks) - Redirect the Pedagogy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Live Q&A week 6 <p>Module 4 (2 weeks) - Look Beyond the Content</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Live Q&A week 9 <p>Module 5 (2 weeks) - Now What?! Digging into your lesson plans</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post-delivery survey • Activity Idea: Quilt Messages • 3-month check-in with Leadership to assess implementation, wins, and achievements • UPSELL - Building a Beloved Language Community (™) Professional Development Workshop series for world language departments and districts. • Invitation to join the Urban Bilingual Collective, a collaborative educator community. • Discount code for a copy of <i>The Color of</i>



	Completion (1 week)	<i>Language text</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDUs for professional development
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Investment:

Self-directed without LIVE Q&As:

Paid-in full - \$3,000
(save \$500)

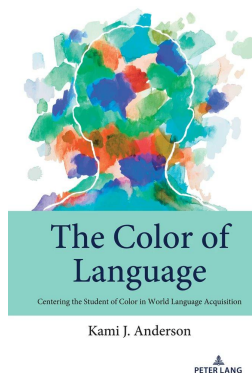
Deposit: \$1,500
4 remaining payments of \$500

Enroll Now!



Departmental Copies of the book, *The Color of Language: Centering students of color in the world language classroom*

Discount directly from Peter Lang Publishers for the purchase of five (5) or more copies for your department!
Discount will be sent after the completion of the course.





I am so excited to work with you through this dynamic online course!

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to book a call with me or email me!!

In partnership,

Dr. Kami J. Anderson

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