**Program Overview**

The book study initiative exists to provide ongoing support and development for world language teachers across the state of Maine. The program creates opportunities for teachers to enrich their practice by engaging in professional reading and reflection with colleagues. The ultimate aim is for teachers to use this as an opportunity to reflect on their practice and strengthen our community through collaboration. About every three weeks, teachers will read the pages assigned and then engage in a conversation with the group via zoom. The zoom link will be sent out to all participants a few days before each meeting.

**Sample schedule**

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| --- | --- |
| Week 1 & 2 | Read pages assigned |
| Week 3 | Engage in conversation about reading via zoom *Rinse and repeat…* |

**Technology Requirements**

At a basic level, zoom requires an internet connection. If you do not have the necessary technology, please email Lavinia immediately.

**FAQ**

*Do I have to pay for zoom?*

No. The host, in this case DOE, is paying to host the conversation on zoom. Participants may need to download zoom when used for the first time but they do not need to purchase zoom.

*How will I earn my contact hours?*

Attendance will be taken at each session and you will receive your contact hours certificate via email at the end of the book study. You will earn 1 hour for each session attended and 2 hours for reading the assigned material.

*What happens if I can’t attend a session?*

We all get busy. If you are unable to make a session, but would still like to participate and earn the contact hours, you can submit a written response (approximately 500 words), emailed to me prior to the discussion to the following prompt: *Reflecting upon the assigned chapter(s), in what ways do you find the reading applicable to your classroom?  Were you left with any lingering questions, and if so, what?  Please use specific examples where appropriate.*

Written questions and comments may be used as contributions to the group discussion.

*Do I have to return the book?*

No. It is yours to keep or pass along to another colleague.

*What should I prepare for the conversation?*

Reading the assigned pages and taking some time to reflect on what you have read and your practice is the best preparation. As is the nature of conversation, our conversations will evolve naturally as we listen to each other’s thinking and ideas.