



Teacher PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

On-site Training – Summer 2026

Instructor of Record: Heather Bender, Native Education Outreach Specialist, Buffalo Bill Center of the West

Delivery: On-site at the Buffalo Bill Center of the West

Audience: All Wyoming and Montana Educators

Dates: June 14 through June 17, 2026

Length: 28 Contact hours = 2 Wyoming PTSB credits or 28 Montana OPI Renewal Units

Cost: \$55 - Participants are responsible for travel, meals, and lodging.

Registration: <http://tickets.centerofthewest.org/selection.aspx?item=224>

Email Heather Bender, heatherb@centerofthewest.org for more information.

Lodging: We have a group accommodation rate with Blair Hotels. Room availability in either of their properties (Holiday Inn, Comfort Inn, or Buffalo Bill Village) is on a first come first served basis. Call 307-587-5544 and mention Indian Education for All Teacher Professional Development to book. Please note that there is a 72-hour cancellation policy. There are also a variety of other hotels, Airbnb, and campground/cabin options available.

Resources: Access to Buffalo Bill Center of the West curated resource materials, access to Historians, Indigenous Knowledge Keepers, Museum Curators, and Museum Educators.

Objectives: Course participants will be able to

- Collaborate with museum educators, curators, historians, and Indigenous knowledge keepers to develop instructional materials that addresses Wyoming Indian Education for All Standards
- Engage in culturally responsive pedagogical practices.
- Identify material cultural primary source materials and analyze how to incorporate them into inquiry-based lesson plans.
- Develop a professional learning community (PLC) for Indian Education for All instruction.
- Develop lesson plans and other teaching materials for implementation and assessment of Wyoming Indian Education for All Content Standards.

Output: Indian Education for All integrated Lesson/Unit plan with activities and assessment tools

Museum Session Overview: All sessions will take place in the Buffalo Bill Center of the West Classroom and Galleries

SUNDAY, 6/14/26 5 – 8 PM (With Light Snacks) (3 Contact Hours)

CULTURAL COMPETENCIES AND CULTURALLY SUSTAINING TEACHING PRACTICE

Competencies and Unpacking Bias
Methodology and Pedagogy
Practical Application in the Classroom

MONDAY, 6/15/26 8:30 AM - 5:30 PM (With Working Lunch) (9 Contact Hours)

INQUIRY AND OBJECT-BASED TEACHING AND LEARNING

Methodology and Material Culture Objects/Primary Sources and Instruction
Practical Application of Teaching with Objects and Other Primary Sources

KNOWLEDGE OF LOCAL INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES

Historical Overview
Contemporary Studies and Resources

LESSON LAB/RESEARCH: PEDAGOGY AND PRACTICE

Imbedding Culturally Sustaining Practice into Lesson Planning
Gallery and McCracken Research Library Time
Content Research and Plan Development

TUESDAY, 6/16/26 8:30 AM – 5:30 PM (With Working Lunch) (9 Contact Hours)

SOVEREIGNTY: FEDERAL/STATE, TRIBAL, AND INTER-TRIBAL RELATIONSHIPS

History and Background
Contemporary Implications (Land, Water, Food)

INDIGENOUS SCIENCES

Cultural Ways of Knowing, Sustainability, and Place
Contemporary Implications

LESSON LAB/RESEARCH: EVALUATION AND REVISION

Evaluation Tools and Implementation
Gallery and McCracken Research Library Time
Content Research and Plan Development

WEDNESDAY, 6/17/26 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM (With Working Lunch) (7 Contact Hours)

LESSON LAB/RESEARCH: INTEGRATION AND COMPLETION

Gallery and McCracken Research Library Time
Complete IEFA Integrated Plan

FINAL PROJECT PRESENTATIONS

