

Mathematics as a Second Language

Offered Collaboratively by the
Vermont Mathematics Initiative and
Better Lesson®



“Teachers need to understand the fundamental principles that underlie school mathematics, so that they can teach it to diverse groups of students as a coherent, reasoned activity and communicate and appreciate the elegance and power of the subject.”

(Mathematical Education for Teachers II, 2012)

Making mathematics accessible to all students requires educators have a strong understanding of mathematics to reach all students in the classroom. This course provides for a deep understanding of the basic themes of arithmetic as well as the inter-relationships among arithmetic, algebra, and geometry. A major theme of *Mathematics as a Second Language* is the understanding of arithmetic and algebra through language.

Participants will explore the mathematics content related to these topics, the intimate relationship among them, and the important pedagogical strategies and skills educational research suggests can have a strong impact on student learning.

Participants of this course will work collaboratively to solve problems and experience how problem solving is an integral part of instruction. They will come to recognize the importance of multiple representations of mathematical concepts and multiple solution strategies and how discourse in the classroom supports learning.

The collaboration with Better Lesson® will further support the the application of participant learning by providing a series of workshops that focus on the impact of identity on a student's learning experience in mathematics classrooms. Educators will have the opportunity to explore their experiences as math learners and how their personal experiences may have impacted their ideas about what math is, who it is for, and for what purpose. They will also have the ability to learn about strategies that can shift daily practices in their classes to ensure that all students have agency that allows them to fully access and enjoy mathematics.

Register by clicking [here](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/H5RWZDX) or pasting this link into your browser: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/H5RWZDX> or contact Judi Laird (judi@vmimathematics.com)



VMI and Better Lesson Professional Development Information

This course will be held using a combination of in-person, asynchronous and online modalities. In-person class sessions will be held at **Ludlow Elementary School** from 8:00-3:00 on the following days:

December 7 and 8, 2023

February 2, 2024

March 29, 2024

Three asynchronous sessions and three synchronous Better Lesson sessions will occur between in-person classes and after the March 29 class. Dates of synchronous sessions TBD



Tuition: \$1953 (includes 3 VTSU Graduate Credits), all course materials and lunch on full day sessions.