



# **Southern Tier Learning Place**

Professional Development Seminars for NYSUT Members

Updated September 1, 2017

# **Seminar Catalog 2017 – 2018**



**NYSUT Member,**

As your union, NYSUT has placed a strong emphasis on professional learning. We know you are continually looking for training opportunities relevant to your professional needs. With that in mind, we have created the Southern Tier Learning Place to provide our teacher and school-related professional members with high-quality seminars that will enhance your knowledge, give you the tools necessary to become the best that you can be within your profession and that satisfy the Continuing Teacher and Leader Education (CTLE) hours requirement for teachers and Level III teaching assistants. These seminars offer a wonderful and valuable benefit for NYSUT members.

Through our Southern Tier Learning Place we have scheduled 2-hour and 3-hour seminars each month, except for May and June due to testing and end-of-year activities. Most seminars from September to April will begin at 4:30 PM, with some seminars beginning at 5:00 PM (see schedule for details). The July and August seminars will begin at 10:00 AM, with the exception of the August 15<sup>th</sup> seminar, which will begin at 5:00 PM. The seminars were selected because of their broad appeal and their focus on the identified needs of teachers and school-related professionals in this area.

While class size is limited, you are welcome to attend as many seminars as you can fit into your schedule. NYSUT is absorbing the cost for the seminars as long as there are 15 participants. We cannot run it with less than 10. **Therefore, please consider your registration as your commitment to attend.**

The Southern Tier Learning Place will be located at the NYSUT regional offices in Elmira and Vestal and the Cortland County Teacher Center in Homer, NY. The seminars to be offered to SRPs and teachers will enhance your work experience and provide you with the tools necessary to our changing profession. The Education & Learning Trust (ELT) will provide the instructors for the high-quality professional learning experience.

Registration for the seminars will be completed by sending the following information to Meghan LeSuer at [mlesuer@nysutmail.org](mailto:mlesuer@nysutmail.org): (1) Title of seminar, (2) date and location seminar, (3) your name, (4) association name, (5) your e-mail address, (6) your preferred mailing address, and (7) your preferred phone number. Participation will be on a first come/first serve basis.

At the completion of the seminar, participants will be provided with a certificate of completion that can be used toward fulfilling CTLE hours.

We encourage you to take advantage of this great program.

In solidarity,

Catherine Farrell, Regional Staff Director ([cfarrell@nysutmail.org](mailto:cfarrell@nysutmail.org))

Susan Lafond, Education & Learning Trust ([slafond@nysutmail.org](mailto:slafond@nysutmail.org))

Bernice Rivera, Education & Learning Trust ([brivera@nysutmail.org](mailto:brivera@nysutmail.org))

**ELT/NYSUT Southern Tier Learning Place**

**2017 – 2018**

**October 2017**

**Seminars Begin at 4:30 PM**

<b>Date &amp; Day</b>	<b>Seminar Title</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Audience</b>	<b>Instructor</b>
October 4, Wednesday	Parent-Teacher Conference: Strategies for Success	2 hours	Elmira	Teacher	Judy Brown & Sharon Wells
October 12, Thursday	Creating a Positive Environment	2 hours	Homer	Teacher	Carolyn Hunter
October 18, Wednesday	Creating a Positive Environment	2 hours	Elmira	Teacher	Lida Bassler
October 26, Thursday	Addressing Aggressive Student Behavior in Schools (H&S)*	3 hours	Vestal	SRP	Carolyn Hunter

**November 2017**

**Seminars Begin at 4:30 PM**

<b>Date &amp; Day</b>	<b>Seminar Title</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Audience</b>	<b>Instructor</b>
November 2, Thursday	Student Engagement	2 hours	Vestal	Teacher	Carolyn Hunter
November 9, Thursday	Dealing with Difficult Students in the School Environment – Violence Prevention (H&S)*	3 hours	Vestal	SRP	Carolyn Hunter
November 14, Tuesday	21 <sup>st</sup> Century Skills for Teachers	2 hours	Elmira	Teacher	Brad McKinney
November 16, Thursday	Dealing with Difficult Students in the School Environment – Violence Prevention (H&S)*	3 hours	Homer	SRP	Carolyn Hunter

**December 2017**

**Seminars Begin at 4:30 PM**

<b>Date &amp; Day</b>	<b>Seminar Title</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Audience</b>	<b>Instructor</b>
December 5, Tuesday	Constructivist Teaching and Learning	2 hours	Vestal	Teacher	Carolyn Hunter
December 12, Tuesday	Constructivist Teaching and Learning	2 hours	Elmira	Teacher	Carolyn Hunter
December 14, Thursday	Disability Awareness (H&S)*	3 hours	Homer	SRP	Carolyn Hunter
December 20, Wednesday	Supporting Students with Autism (H&S)*	3 hours	Elmira	SRP	Carolyn Hunter

\*H & S = Health and Safety

**ELT/NYSUT Southern Tier Learning Place**

**2017 – 2018**

**January 2018**

**Seminars Begin at 4:30 PM**

<b>Date &amp; Day</b>	<b>Seminar Title</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Audience</b>	<b>Instructor</b>
January 4, Thursday	Classroom Management	2 hours	Elmira	Teacher	Carolyn Hunter
January 10, Wednesday	Parent-Teacher Conference: Strategies for Success	2 hours	Homer	Teacher	Judy Brown & Sharon Wells
January 18, Thursday	Supporting Students with Autism (H&S)*	3 hours	Vestal	SRP	Carolyn Hunter

**February 2018**

**Seminars Begin at 4:30 PM\*\***

<b>Date &amp; Day</b>	<b>Seminar Title</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Audience</b>	<b>Instructor</b>
February 6, Tuesday	Discipline Strategies	2 hours	Vestal	Teacher	Carolyn Hunter
February 7, Wednesday	Discipline Strategies	2 hours	Elmira	Teacher	Brad McKinney
February 12, Monday	Classroom Management	2 hours	Homer	Teacher	Brad McKinney
February 28, Wednesday **BEGINS AT 5:00 PM	Addressing Aggressive Student Behavior in Schools (H&S)*	3 hours	Elmira	SRP	Therese Carvey

**March 2018**

**Seminars Begin at 4:30 PM\*\***

<b>Date &amp; Day</b>	<b>Seminar Title</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Audience</b>	<b>Instructor</b>
March 6, Tuesday **BEGINS AT 5:00 PM	Poverty in our School	2 hours	Vestal	Teacher	Therese Carvey
March 8, Thursday **BEGINS AT 5:00 PM	Poverty in our School	2 hours	Elmira	Teacher	Therese Carvey
March 14, Wednesday	21 <sup>st</sup> Century Skills for Teachers	2 hours	Homer	Teacher	Carolyn Hunter
March 15, Thursday	Dealing with Difficult Students in the School Environment – Violence Prevention (H&S)*	3 hours	Elmira	SRP	Brad McKinney
March 20, Tuesday	Discipline Strategies	2 hours	Homer	Teacher	Brad McKinney
March 22, Thursday	Disability Awareness (H&S)*	3 hours	Vestal	SRP	Carolyn Hunter

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**ELT/NYSUT Southern Tier Learning Place**

**2017 – 2018**

**April 2018**

**Seminars Begin at 4:30 PM\*\***

<b>Date &amp; Day</b>	<b>Seminar Title</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Audience</b>	<b>Instructor</b>
April 3, Tuesday	Student Engagement	2 hours	Homer	Teacher	Carolyn Hunter
April 4, Wednesday	Supporting Students with Autism (H&S)*	3 hours	Homer	SRP	Carolyn Hunter
April 25, Wednesday **BEGINS AT 5:00 PM	Constructivist Teaching and Learning	2 hours	Vestal	Teacher	Therese Carvey
April 30, Monday **BEGINS AT 5:00 PM	Constructivist Teaching and Learning	2 hours	Elmira	Teacher	Therese Carvey

**July 2018**

**Seminars Begin at 10:00 AM**

<b>Date &amp; Day</b>	<b>Seminar Title</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Audience</b>	<b>Instructor</b>
July 10, Tuesday	21 <sup>st</sup> Century Skills for Teachers	2 hours	Homer	Teacher	Carolyn Hunter
July 11, Wednesday	Classroom Management	2 hours	Vestal	Teacher	Lida Bassler
July 17, Tuesday	Classroom Management	2 hours	Elmira	Teacher	Lida Bassler
July 24, Tuesday	Parent-Teacher Conference: Strategies for Success	2 hours	Vestal	Teacher	Judy Brown & Sharon Wells
July 31, Tuesday	Dealing with Difficult Students in the School Environment – Violence Prevention (H&S)*	3 hours	Homer	SRP	Theresa Parry-Bick

**August 2018**

**Seminars Begin at 10:00 AM\*\***

<b>Date &amp; Day</b>	<b>Seminar Title</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Audience</b>	<b>Instructor</b>
August 2, Thursday	Creating a Positive Environment	2 hours	Vestal	Teacher	Carolyn Hunter
August 7, Tuesday	Creating a Positive Environment	2 hours	Elmira	Teacher	Brad McKinney
August 15, Wednesday **BEGINS AT 5:00 PM	Constructivist Teaching and Learning	2 hours	Homer	Teacher	Therese Carvey
August 16, Thursday	Student Engagement	2 hours	Elmira	Teacher	Brad McKinney
August 21, Tuesday	21 <sup>st</sup> Century Skills for Teachers	2 hours	Vestal	Teacher	Carolyn Hunter

\*H & S = Health and Safety

## Seminar Descriptions

### **21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills for Teachers**

This seminar is designed to address one of the NYS Teaching Standards priorities by helping teachers understand that knowledge is expanding at a more rapid rate than ever anticipated. Information and communication are changing how we teach and how students learn. Routine skills are no longer the basis for the workplace or the classroom. The seminar will emphasize that today's students and teachers must be able to communicate, share, and use information in a number of diverse ways. We will discover together that using information and solving complex problems as we adapt and innovate to a changing work environment is critical to student success in our world. Technology and problem solving skills will be defined as successful learning and the participants will develop strategies to share those skills with their students. Duration: 2-hours.

**November 14, 2017, Elmira**  
**March 14, 2018, Homer**  
**July 10, 2018, Homer**  
**August 21, 2018, Vestal**

### **Addressing Aggressive Student Behavior in Schools (H&S)\***

Special needs students experience many challenges and frustrations in the classroom. Their response is often to resist efforts of teachers and SROs to support and guide them. This resistance may be shown in mild or passive ways, or in more active ways, such as acting out anger and aggression through outbursts, tantrums, or throwing things. This seminar will focus on strategies for managing the behavior of students who act out, especially in more aggressive and disruptive ways. Participants will discuss the need to teach students to take responsibility for their own behavior, review a plan for ensuring they have the knowledge and skills to successfully change their behaviors, and practice strategies for addressing specific misbehaviors. Confrontation strategies and strategies such as re-direction, cause and effect, and overcorrection will be explored and practiced. Duration: 3-hours.

**October 26, 2017, Vestal**  
**February 28, 2018, Elmira**

### **Classroom Management**

Learn how to establish a framework for developing a personal system of classroom management that includes organizing the classroom to facilitate learning and enhancing the competence of all students. This seminar will model and investigate several conditions that are integral to an effectively managed classroom. Duration: 2-hours.

**January 4, 2018, Elmira**  
**February 12, 2018, Homer**  
**July 11, 2018, Vestal**  
**July 17, 2018, Elmira**

### **Constructivist Teaching & Learning**

This seminar will address one of the priorities of the NYS Teaching Standards. Teachers must consider how each student learns. Understanding how to address this in the classroom means that teachers must implement a variety of instructional strategies. Participants will explore how students learn when they "build" the learning for themselves. When students are asked to classify, analyze, predict and create, they begin to think critically and ask questions in order to understand the complex material presented to them in school and in the world. Duration: 2-hours.

**December 5, 2017, Vestal**  
**December 12, 2017, Elmira**  
**April 25, 2018, Vestal**  
**April 30, 2018, Elmira**  
**August 15, 2018, Homer**

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## **Seminar Descriptions** *(continued)*

### **Creating a Positive Environment**

A positive classroom environment is a major ingredient of effective schools. When students are comfortable in a learning situation, the likelihood for success is greatly increased. This seminar will address verbal communication, positive phrasing, motivation theory, and learner needs. Activities will help participants to integrate these topics.

Duration: 2-hours.

**October 12, 2017, Homer**  
**October 18, 2017, Elmira**  
**August 2, 2018, Vestal**  
**August 7, 2018 Elmira**

### **Dealing with Difficult Students in the School Environment – Violence Prevention (H&S)\***

This seminar will offer strategies for dealing with students who exhibit chronic and extreme misbehavior, including violence. Participants will learn what motivates students to misbehave, intervention techniques to use at the moment of misbehavior, how to avoid and defuse confrontations, and ways to reinforce desirable behavior. Duration: 3-hours.

**November 9, 2017, Vestal**  
**November 16, 2017, Homer**  
**March 15, 2018, Elmira**  
**July 31, 2018, Homer**

### **Disability Awareness (H&S)\***

Participants will acquire a general understanding of the thirteen disability categories and key concepts related to the education of students with disabilities. Participants will experience what it is like to have a disability and learn strategies for improving student learning and behavior. Duration: 3-hours.

**December 14, 2017, Homer**  
**March 22, 2018, Vestal**

### **Discipline Strategies**

This seminar takes a comprehensive look at student-centered discipline and offers a plan of action for teachers who wish to establish a positive classroom learning environment. Teachers learn how to set expectations and design strategies to prevent discipline problems. Duration: 2-hours.

**February 6, 2018, Vestal**  
**February 7, 2018, Elmira**  
**March 20, 2018, Homer**

### **Parent-Teacher Conference: Strategies for Success**

The seminar uses videos, handouts and discussion points to help teachers prepare for a conference with parents. The seminar also helps establish or improve communication involving the teacher, student and parents. Duration: 2-hours.

**October 4, 2017, Elmira**  
**January 10, 2018, Homer**  
**July 24, 2018, Vestal**

### **Poverty in Our School**

This seminar is designed to explore the implications of poverty, socioeconomic issues, and the effects on education and learning. Focus will be centered on six types of poverty: generational, situational, absolute, relative, urban and rural. The training will engage participants in various activities that will assist in understanding how to effectively work with students from low socioeconomic status. During the program participants will discuss and examine how poverty affects the brain and learning, the importance of building relationships, connecting with the community, and creating a classroom environment that promotes learning through research-based practices. Duration: 2-hours.

**March 6, 2018, Vestal**  
**March 8, 2018, Elmira**

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## **Seminar Descriptions** *(continued)*

### **Student Engagement**

This seminar addresses one of the most critical priorities of the NYSUT Rubric (Danielson and Marzano) and the NYS Teaching Standards upon which student success is based. Teachers new to the profession may have seen these signs of engagement during their student teaching and are challenged as to how to plan for this in their everyday teaching. The seminar will engage them in strategies that will help them sustain wonder, enthusiasm and perseverance for students through their teaching. At some time, new teachers may have felt stymied by traditions of reward and punishment. Our challenge is to help them surpass these very real difficulties and provide a practical model for understanding what our students want and need. Duration: 2-hours.

**November 2, 2017, Vestal**  
**April 3, 2018, Homer**  
**August 16, 2018, Elmira**

### **Supporting Students with Autism (H&S)\***

Ending the achievement gap between students with disabilities and their non-disabled peers requires addressing the essential factors that can influence their success. This three-hour training provides up-to-date information on the clinical and associated features of Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASDs), including Asperger's Disorder. Attention will be given to how these features manifest themselves and present unique instructional and learning challenges within educational settings. The seminar goes beyond the core features of the disorders and covers evidence-based, pro-active strategies for helping children and adolescents with ASDs succeed in schools today. Duration: 3-hours.

**December 20, 2017, Elmira**  
**January 18, 2018, Vestal**  
**April 4, 2018, Homer**

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## Locations:

### Elmira Location:

NYSUT Southern Tier  
Elmira Regional Office  
100 West Church Street, Suite 200  
Elmira, NY 14901

### Vestal Location:

NYSUT Southern Tier  
Vestal Regional Office  
305 Vestal Parkway West  
Vestal, NY 13850

### Homer Location:

Cortland County Teacher Center  
Center for the Arts  
72 South Main Street  
Homer, NY 13077

**To Register:** Registration for the seminars will be done online. To register, please contact Meghan LeSuer at [mlesuer@nysutmail.org](mailto:mlesuer@nysutmail.org). **You are asked to provide the following information:** (1) Title of seminar, (2) date and location seminar, (3) your name, (4) association name, (5) your e-mail address, (6) your preferred mailing address, and (7) your preferred phone number. Participation will be on a first come/first serve basis.



### **SOUTHERN TIER REGIONAL OFFICES**

**Elmira Regional Office**  
100 West Church Street, Suite 200  
Elmira, New York 14901  
607-732-1928 or 800-698-6238

**Vestal Regional Office**  
305 Vestal Parkway West  
Vestal, New York 13850  
607-786-5742 or 800-696-9788