

Overview of the Orton-Gillingham Associate Level Course Hosted by Learning Ally

The course content and instructor are associated with the Academy of Orton-Gillingham Practitioners and Educators (AOGPE) and details can be found on their website at <http://ortonacademy.org/index.php>

For certification requirements, please see <http://ortonacademy.org/certification.php>

About Learning Ally, www.learningally.org

The **Associate Level Coursework** is designed to introduce the new trainee to the basic principles of the **Orton-Gillingham Approach** and to the **nature and needs of the dyslexic learner**.

The instructional methodology is also applicable to typical students in the general education setting along with those with language-based learning disabilities, ELL, and struggling readers.

The **first 30 hours** of the Associate Course is presented *before the beginning of the practicum*.

It can be remote via online or in-person. Learning Ally is hosting and sponsoring this 5 day course at the rates of \$800/per person for Learning Ally Members and School Members and \$850 for non-members.

This summer, the first 30 hours of the course will provide the participant with a complete foundation of the language continuum and the multi-sensory Orton-Gillingham Approach.

The first 30 hours of the course will cover the following:

- Overview of learning disabilities and dyslexia
- Neurological underpinnings of language difficulties

- Introduction to the Orton-Gillingham Approach
 - Introduction to phonology
 - Sound / symbol association
 - Orton-Gillingham structure
 - The syllable
 - The six syllable types
 - Rules of Syllabication
 - Spelling Rules
- The Orton-Gillingham Lesson Plan
 - Scope and sequence
 - Spelling
 - Dictation
- The Student Profile
 - Medical, Educational, Academic, Testing
- Grammar
- Morphology
- Comprehension
- Written Expression
- Use of Learning Ally audiobooks in the classroom
- Use of Whizzimo, a digital teaching platform for multisensory reading and spelling instruction.

Many people start with the first 30 hours, before deciding to continue through the additional coursework and practicum to apply for Associate Level certification from the Academy of Orton-Gillingham Practitioners and Educators.

In order for the trainee to apply to the Academy of Orton-Gillingham at the Associate Level, he or she must complete:

- **60 hours of Coursework** taught by a Fellow of the Academy
- **100 hours of Supervised Practicum**, teaching 1:1, under the direction of a Fellow of the Academy, over a period of at least eight months.
- **An application** to the Academy containing evidence of completion

The **second 30 hours** of the Associate Course is **broken down into classes which are primarily IN-PERSON. If you are taking the first 30 hours remotely online, you will have to find a local AOGPE Fellow who offers the second 30 hours.** Learning Ally plans on hosting this course at its Princeton location for in-person attendance on Saturdays, in the fall/winter of 2016. Remote access will not be available. Cost is \$500 for 5 sessions.

The **second 30 hours** is **introduced before or during the practicum because it will provide** the participant with a **more in-depth understanding of the Orton-Gillingham Approach and lesson planning.** This part of the course will introduce the trainee to the **creation and writing of the student notebook, the lesson plan forms, and practice materials.** In addition, the second thirty hours of the course will look at the **role of assessment** in the planning of instruction. This is done because **the child being remediated during the practicum by a Associate Trainee must receive such instruction under the guidance of an Academy Fellow.**

The practicum also is in-person, sometimes via recorded video, and requires supervision by an AOGPE Fellow. Learning Ally will not coordinate or organize practicums. Typically, costs range from \$1500-\$2500.