

- Describe key components of a credible PLAR system;
- Describe current standards for PLAR practice and their benefits;
- Identify some of the most recent research findings related to PLAR;
- Describe provincial, national and international activity in PLAR.

COURSE FEE FOR THE 7 WORKSHOPS: \$300.00

Faculty and staff from Red River College or other Manitoba public post-secondary institutions should contact **Continuing Education** at **949-8353** for course tuition fees.

All work shops are facilitated by experienced PLAR practitioners. Learn from those who practice!

Since 2001, over 350 participants have completed the PLAR Foundation Course!

Join this growing group of trained PLAR practitioners.

INTERESTED IN PLAR FOUNDATION COURSE ONLINE?

Visit our website at:

www.rrc.mb.ca/prior

for course dates (October, 2005 - March 2006) and registration information.

Course fee for online: \$350.00

AS A COURSE PARTICIPANT I LEARNED...

“PLAR is based on the **learning** from work and life experience.”

“Great information on **advising!** This is the key.”

“Ways to develop valid and reliable **PLAR** process.”

“The elements of **quality assessment.**”

“The importance of learner **self assessment.**”

“How to put **portfolios** together.”

“The **principles** behind PLAR.”

COURSE PARTICIPANT COMMENTS...

“Excellent handouts and course resources.”

“I enjoyed the atmosphere the instructor creates through having participants share freely.”

“Very interesting workshops, discussions, group work and participant interactions.”

“Lots of useful ideas and learning.”

***NOTE:** All classes are held at **Red River College**
2055 Notre Dame Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba.

*Additional “Introduction to PLAR” workshops will be offered throughout the year. Visit our website at:
www.rrc.mb.ca/prior

Two onsite PLAR Foundation Courses will be offered in 2005 - 2006

Contact Continuing Education to register:

By phone: **694.1789** or **1.866.242.7073**

Go online: www.rrc.mb.ca

In person: Continuing Education

C116 - 2055 Notre Dame Avenue

Winnipeg, Manitoba

PLAR Foundation Course

Class Dates		Time	Room
Thursday Oct. 6/05	Introduction to PLAR	9:00 – 12:00 p.m.	A137
Monday Nov. 7/05	PLAR and Learning Outcomes	9:00 – 4:00 p.m.	A137
Wednesday Dec. 7/05	PLAR and Flexible Assessment Practices (Part 1)	9:00 – 4:00 p.m.	A137
Tuesday Jan. 10/06	PLAR and the Portfolio	9:00 – 4:00 p.m.	A137
Thursday Feb. 2/06	PLAR and Flexible Assessment Practices (Part 2)	9:00 – 4:00 p.m.	A137
Thursday March 2/06	Role of Advisors & Assessors	9:00 – 4:00 p.m.	A111
Wednesday April 5/06	Putting PLAR into Context	9:00 – 4:00 p.m.	A137

PLAR Foundation Summer Institute

A one week summer institute will be scheduled for June 12 - 16, 2006 or June 19 - 23, 2006.

Dates to be confirmed. Check PLAR site at:

www.rrc.mb.ca/prior

Additional Learning PLAR ADVANCED-LEVEL COURSE !

The PLAR PRACTITIONER COURSE is an advanced level of PLAR training. This 42-hour course will be offered between November, 2005 and April, 2006 onsite at RRC and in a distance delivery format. If you have completed the PLAR Foundation Course or have equivalent prior learning, you may be interested in applying for this advanced level course.

For further information please contact:

Deb Blower
Red River College
PLAR Facilitator
204.632.2065

email: dblower@rrc.mb.ca

Check out the PLAR Practitioner Course information at

www.rrc.mb.ca/prior

PRIOR LEARNING
ASSESSMENT & RECOGNITION

PLAR Foundation Course

2005 - 2006

A PLAR COURSE OFFERED
ONSITE & ONLINE
www.rrc.mb.ca/prior

Red River College is pleased to offer the PLAR Foundation Course.

Faculty and staff from post-secondary institutions and other organizations across the province are invited to attend the seven workshop series. The PLAR Foundation course is also available as an online distance course and a one week institute scheduled for June 2006.

The PLAR Foundation course provides basic training in PLAR processes and system development. Participants may choose to complete the course for credit recognition in RRC Continuing Education or Distance Education. This course credit can be applied to the Certificate in Adult Education (CAE), or Career/Employment Counselling Certificate or the Human Resource Management Certificate (ie PLAR stream) offered through RRC. Participants will be granted credit for the course upon successful completion of the workshop series, and the course assignments.

PLAR Foundation Course fee - \$ 300.

Faculty and staff from RRC or other Manitoba public post-secondary institutions should contact Continuing Education at 204.949.8353 re: course tuition.

Interested in completing the PLAR Foundation Course online?

This interactive online course will run from mid October 2005 to March 27 2006.

For specific dates contact:

Deb Blower

PLAR Facilitator

204.632.2065

dblowner@rrc.mb.ca
go online at:

www.rrc.mb.ca/ prior

Online course fee - \$350.00

PLAR FOUNDATION WORKSHOPS

(Please see back panel for course session dates and times)

1 INTRODUCTION TO PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT AND RECOGNITION (PLAR) 3.5 hours

This session provides an introduction to PLAR and an overview of PLAR activities/resources/projects in Manitoba and across Canada. Upon completion of this session, participants should be able to:

- Explain what PLAR means and some basic principles on which PLAR is founded;
- Explain uses of PLAR in different environments and describe the benefits for learners, institutions and the workplace;
- Describe the steps in the PLAR process and various methods used to assess PLAR;
- Define a PLAR Practitioner;
- Utilize resources and contacts for PLAR in Manitoba and nationally.

2 PLAR AND LEARNING OUTCOMES 6 hours

This session is designed for those interested in developing courses and programs using a learning outcome approach. Once developed in this way, determining the assessment process for PLAR is much easier. This session is a pre-requisite to the PLAR and Flexible Assessment workshops. Upon completion of this session, participants should be able to:

- Define learning outcomes and dimensions of learning;
- Analyze courses and workplace tools to identify essential elements of learning (knowledge, skills and abilities);
- Describe the relationship of learning outcomes to teaching, learning, assessment and to workplace resources and tools;
- Write learning outcomes and elements of performance for courses or job performance.

3 PLAR AND FLEXIBLE ASSESSMENT PRACTICES - PART 1 6 hours

This session is intended to provide a framework for quality PLAR practice and principles of sound assessment. It encourages the participants to broaden their thinking about the evidence of learning possibilities and valid assessment processes. Upon completion of this workshop, participants should be able to:

- Outline a model for PLAR, including team composition and roles;
- Explain the principles of sound assessment;
- Describe different forms of evidence of learning;
- Use various assessment methods for PLAR and identify benefits and challenges of each.

4 PLAR AND THE PORTFOLIO 6 hours

This session will assist participants to discover how portfolios can be used for assessing prior learning as well as a career/professional development tool. Upon completion of this session, participants should be able to:

- Describe the portfolio as both a process and a product;
- Describe the benefits of a portfolio in educational, career and workplace environments;
- Identify how to inventory transferable skills from life, work and formal learning;
- Analyze the strengths of various types of evidence of learning used in portfolios;
- Describe a valid model for organizing a portfolio;
- Apply principles of sound assessment when reviewing portfolios.

5 PLAR AND FLEXIBLE ASSESSMENT PRACTICES - PART 2 6 hours

Activities and discussion in this session focus specifically on how evidence of learning/prior learning is evaluated. Participants should have completed PLAR and Flexible Assessment Practices-Part 1 and PLAR and the Portfolio. At the end of this workshop, participants should be able to:

- Identify key components in quality assessment practice;

- Describe assessment criteria, how it relates to learning outcomes and elements of performance and why it is necessary for quality assessment;
- Set assessment criteria and levels of performance;
- Explain common pitfalls in assessment;
- Apply principles of sound assessment when reviewing portfolios or evaluating other evidence of learning;
- Identify and provide rationale for different ways of recording PLAR credit.

6 ADVISOR/ASSESSOR ROLES IN PLAR 6 hours

This session will focus on the development of the advising and assessing function in PLAR. During the workshop, participants will explore the roles, functions and activities of the PLAR practitioner in helping to advise learners for assessment and in assessing learning. The session also explores the National Benchmarks for the Canadian PLAR Practitioner (CAPLA 2000). Upon completion of this session participants should be able to:

- Identify the knowledge, skills and abilities required of PLAR advisors and assessors;
- Provide information, advice and support to individuals to access PLAR;
- Complete administrative responsibilities throughout the process;
- Provide advisory services to individuals throughout the PLAR process, including orientation, identification of goals, documentation of learning, preparation for assessment, and post-assessment guidance;
- Identify CAPLA's National Benchmarks for Advisors and Assessors and explain how they might be used;
- Identify key strategies for creating an inclusive culturally diverse learning environment.

7 PUTTING PLAR INTO CONTEXT 6 hours

This session focuses on how to integrate PLAR most effectively and efficiently into program areas, institutions and/or other organizations. This workshop is very useful for those just beginning to integrate PLAR. Upon completion of this session participants should be able to:

- Describe how PLAR fits within an organization;

- PLEASE REGISTER EARLY! SPACE IS LIMITED AND COURSE SESSIONS ARE EXPECTED TO FILL QUICKLY!
- All onsite workshops are held at Red River College, 2055 Notre Dame Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba