TEXAS LESSON STUDY
Research. Reflect. Refine.

WHAT IS TEXAS LESSON STUDY?

Texas Lesson Study (TXLS) is inquiry-based, systematic professional development. Our program is:

- job-embedded,
- collaborative,
- closely connected to classroom practice,
- focused on student learning,
- directed toward the teaching of specific curriculum content, and
- complementary to Professional Learning Communities (PLCs)

THE TXLS CYCLE

1 Examine & Identify

2 Review & Plan

3 Teach & Observe

4 Reflect & Revise

5 Share & Network

TXLS teams meet weekly to progress through the TXLS cycle.

Training and meeting schedules are tailored to fit the campus needs.

ESCs, in collaboration with TEA, support districts and campuses with implementation.

BENEFITS OF TEXAS LESSON STUDY

#1 Improves teacher effectiveness through self-reflective, outcome-oriented, research-based learning communities

#2 Increases self-mastery and public perception of the teaching profession by producing high-quality research-based documents (similar to the medical and legal professions)

#3 Builds a massive repository of master lessons that have been delivered, dissected, and refined by teachers

➡ **This leads to improved student outcomes.**

> "
> What I like about Lesson Study is that it's targeted specifically to a group of teachers: for the content, for the skill development, for closing the gap—all things teachers need to help their students flourish and thrive.
>
> -TXLS Principal

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HOW IS TXLS DIFFERENT?

Traditional PD	Lesson Study
Begins with an answer	Begins with a **question** developed by teachers
Driven by an outside "expert"	Driven by **participants**
Communication flow: trainer —> teachers	Communication flow: **among teachers**
Hierarchical relations between trainer & learners	**Reciprocal** relations among educators
Research informs practice	Practice is research

TEA Texas Education Agency — STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Goal 1—Recruiting, Supporting, and Retaining Teachers and Principals

The agency will improve educator pre-service and in-service training, and implement systems of continuous educator improvement, because teachers are the greatest asset in our school systems to improve student outcomes. (p.4)

Texas Lesson Study is listed as a specific action item to achieve this goal.

HOW DOES TXLS CONNECT TO T-TESS?

Each T-TESS domain directly aligns with the phases of the Lesson Study Cycle. Below is a snapshot of the alignment.

1.2 Analysis of student data connected to specific instructional strategies and use of results to reflect on his or her teaching and to monitor teaching strategies and behaviors in relation to student success	• Determines "Points of Evaluation" in the lesson which connect to specific **instructional strategies** • Reviews collected **data** to **reflect** and critically examines his or her practice
2.2 Displays extensive content knowledge of all the subjects she or he teaches and closely related subjects	• **Researches** key concepts underlying the topic and considers content connections
2.2 Consistently anticipates possible student misunderstandings and proactively develops teaching techniques to mitigate concerns	• Identifies **anticipated student responses** and **misunderstandings**, and **proactively** plans the research lesson to mitigate concerns
2.4 Consistently monitors the quality of student participation and performance	• Observes students during **live teaching** • Collects qualitative **data** on the **learning process**