

**University of West Georgia**

**Expanding Elementary Teachers' content Knowledge of Ecosystems across Georgia**

Dr. Danilo Baylen  
Department of Educational Technology and Foundations  
Carrollton, GA 30118

678-839-6130

dbaylen@westga.edu

Dr. Joseph Hendricks  
College of Science and Mathematics  
Carrollton, Ga 30118

678-839-4037

jhendrick@westga.edu

In alignment with Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) initiatives within the State of Georgia, faculty from the College of Education (COE) in collaboration with the College of Science and Mathematics (COSM) at the University of West Georgia will offer knowledge building and skill development experiences on teaching science content for fifteen (15) teachers representing high need elementary schools from Henry and Meriwether school systems. This professional development program has the following objectives for participating teachers: (1) acquire or enhance their knowledge including the concepts and vocabulary related to photosynthesis and growth, plant and animal life cycles, grazing food chain, decomposition food chain, and variations in ecosystem structure and function among Georgia's physiographic regions; (2) develop literacy skills that support student learning aligned with the science content and standards, (3) identify area of r collaboration (Reading, English Language Arts, Math, Social Studies, and School Library Media) with other K-5 teachers and staff in developing students' reading and writing skills across content areas, (4) have opportunities to collaborate with peers in creating instructional activities for teaching science and meeting the standards, (5) demonstrate how to collect data during the implementation of instructional activities and analyze them for impact on student learning, and (6) have opportunities to network with peers and other professionals during and beyond the workshops.

**Arts & Sciences Unit of Institute of Higher Education**  
University of West Georgia—College of Science and Mathematics

**Unit of Institute of Higher Education that prepares teachers & principals**  
University of West Georgia—College of Education

**High Need LEA(s)**  
Henry County  
Meriwether County