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North Canton Public Library Acquires New Instructor Led Online Courses

NORTH CANTON, Ohio, February 16, 2015 - The North Canton Public Library has acquired two new educational products: Gale Courses from Centage Learning's Gale division and Universal Class offered through Recorded Books. Through these unique programs, community members can access instructor-led, online courses at no cost through the North Canton Public Library website.

"The launch of these two powerful continuing education services, designed specifically for members of public libraries, aligns directly with the mission of the North Canton Public Library. Whether library members are looking for college-level instruction, professional development, or personal enrichment courses, they can take advantage of these online courses that are accessible anywhere, anytime," said Christina Weyrick, North Canton Public Library community relations manager.

ABOUT GALE COURSES:

Gale Courses offers six-week classes year-round. The courses are entirely web-based with comprehensive lessons, quizzes and assignments. A dedicated professional instructor coordinates every course by pacing learners, answering questions, providing feedback and facilitating discussions.

Options from Gale Courses include Career and Professional Development with many courses tied to the Bureau of Labor Statistics' growing occupations. Examples include: Accounting, Resume Writing, Business and Management, Grant Writing and Nonprofit Skills, Real Estate, Healthcare and Sales and Marketing. Gale's Computers and Technology courses cover all skill levels from beginner to advanced, even focusing on specific software applications. Examples include: Introduction to the Microsoft Office Suite, Database Management, Graphic and Multimedia Design and using the Internet. With Gale's Personal Enrichment courses, library patrons have access to a wide array of courses whether related to hobbies, education, or life resources. Examples include: Parents and Family, Digital Photography, and Health and Wellness.

ABOUT UNIVERSAL CLASS:

Universal Class allows library patrons to enroll in as many as five courses at a time, and gives them as long as six months to finish each course. All courses provide a human instructor with whom patrons may communicate via eMail. Classes and assignments are completed on the user's schedule.

With a catalog of more than 500 courses, Universal Class provides a wide variety of high quality online education. More than 300,000 students around the world have benefited from Universal Class' unique instructional technologies. Universal Class offers a combination of real instructors guiding the learning, engaging video-based lessons, a collaborative learning environment, graded tests, certificates of achievement and Continuing Education Units available for selected courses. Students enjoy an engaging and measurable learning experience that helps them master and document their educational goals. Universal Class offers courses in Fitness, Entrepreneurship, Arts, Music, Home and Garden Care, Cooking, Computers and Technology, Health and Medicine, Homeschooling, Job Assistance, Legal Concerns, Parenting and Family, Pet and Animal Care and hundreds more.

Gale Course and Universal Class are accessible via the new "learning and research" link at ncantonlibrary.org. For additional information, please contact Christina Weyrick at 330.499.4712 x331 or ccooper@northcantonlibrary.org.

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