

T&L 2900 – Teaching to Diverse Abilities

Course at a Glance

Instructor(s): Denise Kaye

Length: 30 Hours

Dates: Enroll Anytime – Complete in 4 months

Delivery Method: Online

Number of Professional Development Credits: 2, from the University of North Dakota

Introduction

This 2 (two) credit course will provide guidance for teachers who are interested in creating learning environments that address the diversity typical of mixed ability classrooms. The principles and strategies included here can help teachers address a variety of learning profiles, interests, and readiness levels. Learning centers, hands-on activities, contracts, and investigative projects will be examined. Examples and field tested strategies are used to show how to succeed in today's increasingly diverse classroom.

This self-paced course can be started and completed at the student's own leisure **within four months from the UND course registration date.**

Course Objectives

There are 4 major goals for this course:

1. help teachers determine what differentiated instruction is,
2. understand why is it appropriate for all learners,
3. plan and prepare for it,
4. and become comfortable enough with student differences to make class comfortable for each learner.

Learning Objectives

Individuals in this course will:

- apply instructional strategies to mixed ability learners,
- understand the role of the teacher with diverse ability students,
- develop strategies for managing diverse abilities,
- prepare students and parents for a diverse ability classroom,
- plan diverse ability lessons by readiness, interest and learning profiles,

- and differentiate content, process, educational products and grading in classrooms with diverse ability learners.

Session Highlights

In addition to the course readings and reflections, individuals will develop 1 lesson plan that demonstrates course concepts in a school classroom while addressing course objectives. In a Critical Analysis Paper, individuals will reflect and analyze their lesson plan explaining considerations, approach, and resources used to develop it.

Course Materials

All course content is online within the course with the exception of the text by Ann Tomlinson (2001), Differentiated Instruction in Mixed-Ability Classrooms (2nd Ed.). Alexandria, VA.

Technical Requirements –

- **Internet Access** - Your connection to the Internet should be cable, DSL, or faster.
- **Application** - MS Word
- **Browser** - Firefox, Internet Explorer, Chrome and/or Safari

Assignments

- Course Readings and Reflections
- Lesson Plan
- Critical Analysis Paper

Assignments & Grading Percentages toward Final Grade

GRADING SUMMARY

Component	Points
Readings and Reflections	30%
Lesson Plan	40%
Critical Analysis Paper	30%
Total	100%

Grading

This online course uses Letter Grading (A – F) or Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory (S/U). The grading option must be selected at the time of course registration.

The course instructor will review students' answers and provide feedback in a timely manner (generally within 24 to 48 hours).

Scholastic Dishonesty

Students enrolled in this course are expected to be aware of the seriousness of scholastic dishonesty. Unacceptable behavior such as submitting someone else's work as your own, cheating on exams, or plagiarizing can result in failure of the course or other sanctions. For a more detailed description of these policies, please refer to the UND Code of Student Life; Appendix IIIa-3, at: <http://und.edu/student-affairs/code-of-student-life/>