



Overview

DIFFERENTIATING INSTRUCTION IN THE CLASSROOM



OVERVIEW

Educators are challenged each day to respond to the increasing variety of student needs, backgrounds, and learning styles. Differentiated Instruction is a philosophy regarding teaching and learning. It is also a collection of strategies that help teachers better address and manage the variety of learning needs in the classroom. In this course, participants will become familiar with teaching strategies and tools targeted for learning styles and multiple intelligences and develop a lesson plan utilizing these methods.



GOALS

This online course will enable participants to:

1. Gain a concrete understanding of Differentiated Instruction
2. Learn the skills to successfully implement Differentiated Instruction in the classroom
3. Understand strategies to assess learning styles and multiple intelligences of students
4. Identify characteristics of Howard Gardner's multiple intelligences
5. Recognize attributes of various learning styles
6. Understand content, process, and product
7. Develop a standards-based lesson plan which incorporates Differentiated Instruction strategies for students' learning styles and multiple intelligences



FINAL PRODUCT

Course participants will use the [Differentiated Instruction Lesson Plan Template](#) to plan their final product. The lesson plan template is in Microsoft Word format as well as in PDF format. Both links can be found in the Resources section of this course.



COURSE EXPECTATIONS

This workshop is divided into six one-week sessions (after an initial orientation week) which each include readings, activities, and an online discussion among workshop participants. Participants should expect to spend 4-5 hours per week in order to adequately complete the work.

The outline for the workshop is as follows:

Orientation	Introductions and Navigating Blackboard
Session One	What is Differentiation?
Session Two	Content, Process, and Product
Session Three	Students' Readiness, Interest, and Learning Profiles
Session Four	Identifying Multiple Intelligences
Session Five	Strategies for Implementation
Session Six	Assessing Students in the Differentiated Classroom

These are suggested criteria to be used for evaluating successful participation in and completion of this workshop.

Discussion Board Postings	Participants are expected to respond to the online discussion prompt in each of the course sessions with an original posting. Participants are also expected to respond to the postings of at least two other course participants in each session. Guidelines for discussion postings, as developed by the EdTech Leaders Online, are available at the following URL: http://www.edtechleaders.org/documents/discussion_guidelines.htm
Readings and Activities	Participants are expected to complete the required course readings and activities as posted in each of the session assignment pages. Optional readings may also be completed, but are not mandatory.
Final Product	Participants are expected to complete and submit the final product during the final workshop session. Final products are individual efforts. Team products are not acceptable without prior, written approval and will only be approved if the product is worthy of the time and effort of multiple participants.



PREREQUISITES

Participants are expected to have regular access to Internet connected computers. Additionally, participants should be at a proficient level of email use, Internet browsing, and navigation of computer files.



CONTENT AND TECHNOLOGY STANDARDS



ABOUT THIS WORKSHOP

This course was developed by educators as part of the eLearning Delaware initiative. [eLearning Delaware](#) is Delaware's implementation of the [eLearning for Educators](#) Initiative, a project funded through a federal Ready to Teach grant and a multi-state collaboration between ten state education agencies and associated public broadcast stations. eLearning Delaware partners are the [Delaware Center for Educational Technology](#), the [Delaware Department of Education](#), and [WHYY](#).