# EDUC590

**STUDENT WARNING:** This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.

# **Course Summary**

**Course :** EDUC590 **Title :** Differentiation for Learners in Mixed Ability Classrooms **Length of Course :** 8 **Prerequisites :** N/A **Credit Hours :** 3

# Description

**Course Description:** This course is designed to give regular education teachers strategies to use in academically and culturally diverse classrooms. Using case studies as a launching point, course participants will examine the complexities of balancing the needs of gifted education, general education, special education, and culturally diverse students in a standards-driven climate. Use of tiered assignments, alternative assessments targeting different intelligences, and other modifications will be evaluated, implemented, and refined. Course participants will collaborate to address beliefs, best practices, challenges, current research, and ways to apply them to their own teaching practice.

# Course Scope:

This course focuses on providing educators with a broader understanding of driving legislation and basic principles and practices for management of the inclusive classroom. Participants will also explore the need for collaboration among educators to ensure success of all students. Participants will gain foundational knowledge and skills required of effective teachers of students identified with exceptional needs or talents in K-12 general education settings.

# Objectives

After successfully completing this course, you will be able to:

- Understand differentiation.
- Analyze the need for diversified assessment strategies to demonstrate students' achievement of academic, behavioral, and functional skills and to make continuous instructional decisions.
- Analyze diverse student characteristics and environmental factors (to plan, deliver, and evaluate instruction and learning).
- Apply information related to best practices and/or demonstrate appropriate strategies for teaching students of all abilities across grade levels (including assessment, differentiation of instruction, research-based instructional strategies, age appropriate instructional materials, instructional and assistive technology, co-teaching, collaboration, and classroom management).

# Outline

# Week 1: Defining Differentiation? Special Education and Success for All Learners

## Learning Outcomes

- Define differentiation
- Explain the teacher's role in differentiation
- Understand the foundation of special education and developing success for all learners

**Required Readings** 

Reading: Heacox Chapter 1 and Vaughn, Bos, & Schumm Chapters 1 and 2

Assignments

Forum 1

Forum 2

Assignment #1

# Week 2: Who are your students? Communicating and Collaborating Teaching Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Students

Learning Outcomes

• Understand the importance of knowing your students

• Explain why and how to communicate and collaborate with school constituents to get to know students and best meet their needs

· Identify ways to teach culturally and linguistically diverse students

**Required Readings** 

Reading: Heacox Chapter 2 And Vaughn, Bos, & Schumm Chapters 3 and 4

Assignments

Forum 2

Assignment #2

# Week 3: What to Teach

#### Learning Outcomes

- · Identify essential questions and unit questions
- Understand how to use essential and unit questions to differentiate instruction
- Describe how to map curriculum

Reading: Heacox Chapter 3

Assignments

Forum 3

Assignment #3

# Week 4: How to Teach Teaching Students with Disabilities

### Learning Outcomes

- Understand how to plan for challenge and variety
- · Understand how to teach students with disabilities

### **Required Readings**

Reading: Heacox Chapter 4 and Vaughn, Bos, & Schumm SELECT ONE OR MORE CHAPTERS FROM: Chapters 6, 7, or 8

Assignments

Forum 4

Assignment #4

# Week 5: Flexible Grouping Teaching Students with Disabilities

### Learning Outcomes

- · Understand and describe flexible grouping options
- · Understand how to teach students with disabilities

**Required Readings** 

Reading: Heacox Chapter 5 and Vaughn, Bos, & Schumm SELECT ONE OR MORE CHAPTERS FROM: Chapters 9, 10, or 11

### Assignments

Forum 5

Assignment #5

# Week 6: Tiered Assignments Facilitating Instruction

### Learning Outcomes

- Identify six ways to tier assignments
- Understand how and when to tier assignments
- · Identify how to facilitate instruction in one of the main content areas

**Required Readings** 

Reading: Heacox Chapter 6 and Choose one of the following Vaughn, Bos, & Schumm chapters: Chapter 12 (reading) or Chapter 13 (writing) or Chapter 14 (math)

Assignments

Forum 6

Assignment #6

# Week 7: Student Choices and Grading Fostering Strategies for Student Independence

Learning Outcomes

- · Identify choices for differentiating instruction
- Explain a rationale for grading in the differentiated classroom
- · Identify ways to foster student independence

**Required Readings** 

Reading: Heacox Chapters 7 and 8 and skim Vaughn, Bos, & Schumm Chapter 16

Assignments

Forum 7

Assignment #7

### Week 8: Managing Differentiation Differentiation and Special Populations

#### Learning Outcomes

- Understand how to prepare for and manage differentiation
- · Explain how to differentiate for special populations

**Required Readings** 

Readings: Heacox Chapters 9 and 10

Assignments

Forum 8

Assignment #8

# **Evaluation**

## Grading:

Name

Grade %

# Materials

**Book Title:** Differentiating Instructor's in Regulation Class - With CD (Hard copy not available from the APUS Bookstore, please try other sources)

Author: Heacox, Diane

Publication Info: Free Spirit Publishing

ISBN: 9781575423289

**Book Title:** Teaching Students Who are Exceptional, Diverse, and at Risk in the General Education Classroom. 5th ed (Hard copy not available from the APUS Bookstore, please try other sources.)

Author: Vaughn, Sharon R

Publication Info: Pearson

**ISBN:** 9780137151790

## **Required Course Textbooks**

Heacox, D. (2008). *Differentiating Instruction in the regular classroom. Howto reach and teach all learners, Grades 3-12.* Free Spirit Publishing: Minneapolis, MN. ISBN-13: 978-1575423289

\*Vaughn, S., Bos, C., Schumm, J. S. (2010). *Teaching Students who are exceptional, diverse, and at risk in the general education classroom, (5thEd.)* Allyn & Bacon: Boston, MA. ISBN-13: 978-0137151790

### Recommended Textbook for the degree program:

In addition to the required texts in this course, you are strongly encouraged to purchase the latest addition of the Publication manual of the American Psychological Association (6th edition) if you have not previously purchased this resource.

### Websites

In addition to the required course texts the following public domain Websites are useful. Please abide by the university's academic honesty policy when using Internet sources as well. Note Web site addresses are subject to change.

### Site Name Website URL/Address

U.S. Department of Education Office of Special Education Programs National Center on Secondary Education and Transition Services

Disability Rights <u>www.pai-ca.org</u> California

Wrightslaw www.wrightslaw.com

Children and Adults with <u>www.chadd.org</u> ADHD

National Attention Deficit <u>www.add.org</u> Disorder Association

National Institute for Childhood Health and Human Development

Recordings for the Blind <u>www.rfbd.org</u> and Dyslexic

Cooperative Learning Center of the <u>www.co-operation.org</u> University of Minnesota

The Educator's Reference Desk North Central Regional Education Laboratory – Grouping Practices

Positive Behavioral Interventions <u>www.pbis.org</u> and Supports

Council for Children with Behavioral Disorders

Everything ESL.net <u>www.everythingesl.net</u>

US Department of Education, Office of <u>www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oela/index.html</u> English Language Acquisition

Southern Poverty Law <u>http://www.splcenter.org/</u> Center

National MultiCultural <u>www.nmci.org</u> Institute

National Association for <u>www.nameorg.org</u> Multicultural Education

National Association for Bilingual Education

www.nabe.org

Teachers of English to Speakers of Foreign <u>http://www.tesol.org/s\_tesol/index.asp</u> Languages

Association of Supervision and <u>www.ascd.org</u> Curriculum Development

National Center for Children in Poverty

North Central Regional Educational Laboratory – Critical Issue: Providing Effective Schooling for Students at Risk

Center for Applied Special Technology

Success for All Foundation

Ed by Design www.edbydesign.com/parentres.html

National Council of Teachers of English

National Council of Teachers of Mathematics The K-12 Mathematics Curriculum Center

How to Study.com

Self-Determination Synthesis Project

# **Course Guidelines**

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# **University Policies**

# Student Handbook

- Drop/Withdrawal policy
- Extension Requests
- <u>Academic Probation</u>
- <u>Appeals</u>
- Disability Accommodations

The mission of American Public University System is to provide high quality higher education with emphasis on educating the nation's military and public service communities by offering respected, relevant, accessible, affordable, and student-focused online programs that prepare students for service and leadership in a diverse, global society.

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