

LITE 537 - Differentiation Assignment

Differentiated instruction is about using teaching strategies that connect with individual students. The ultimate goal is to maximize student success by using effective teaching strategies that lead students to positive learning outcomes and making adjustments when necessary. It's about being flexible, open to change, and taking risks and trying teaching and learning strategies that you may not have used before. It's about managing instructional time in a way that meets the standards and also provides motivating, challenging, and meaningful experiences for school age pupils who are socialized to receive and process information in ways that require differentiation of experience. These are very exciting times for the teaching profession. We are faced with a generation of learners who are challenging us to think about how we deliver instruction. (Technology, 2008).

Assignment Directions:

As experienced educators, we are sure you are already familiar with differentiation to some degree.

The ultimate product in LITE 537 is to teach (and differentiate) the IDP you developed in LITE 535.

You will be required in the teaching of your IDP to differentiate “up” and differentiate “down”. **[Please note - I realize that you may not actually need to teach both up and down, but you will still be required to plan for this differentiation.]**

Please read/consume the following materials:

- Blog post [“How Do You Differentiate Up?”](#)
- Blog post [“Differentiating Instruction: Working Without Lowering Rigor”](#)
- Watch Video [“Differentiating Instruction: It’s Not as Hard as You Think”](#) [4:27]
- Short webpage [“Simplifying Differentiation: Content, Process, and Product”](#)

Now think about how you can differentiate instruction in your IDP?

Discuss two ways you can differentiate your instruction or assessment in your IDP (that you designed in LITE 535) for your pupils.

One must be an Up differentiation (i.e. more challenging in some way) and one must be a Down differentiation (i.e. to decrease the rigor to best serve student needs).

You are going to write a short paper in APA 7th edition format. I am not giving you a word length. This could be as short as two or three paragraphs, but I do want it in proper APA format.

Be sure to cite at least three sources of information about the differentiation tactics you discuss, including one that you found on your own. (In other words, two of your sources can be shared from above). The source you find on your own may be a textbook, academic article, or other scholarly source. Include the following for each method of differentiation discussed:

Is the differentiation for the content, process, or product?

What is the purpose for the differentiation?

Describe the differentiation.

Rubric

Criteria	Novice (0-49%)	Developing (50-69%)	Proficient (70-94%)	Distinguished (95-100%)
Correct APA 20 points	Numerous APA formatting errors present, or paper lacks adherence to APA style guidelines. References may be missing or improperly formatted.	Some APA formatting errors evident, but most requirements met. References may have minor issues.	APA formatting mostly correct with few errors. All references formatted properly.	Perfect adherence to APA format with impeccable referencing and formatting throughout.
Content 60 points	Little to no relevant content present. Arguments lack coherence and evidence. Differentiation plans are unclear or missing.	Some relevant content included, but arguments may lack depth or coherence. Provides minimal detail of differentiation plans.	Relevant content provided with clear arguments supported by evidence. Provides well-developed detail of differentiation plans..	Comprehensive and insightful content, with compelling arguments supported by thorough evidence. Provides exceptional detail of differentiation plans.
Grammar/Mechanics 20 points	Frequent grammar and mechanical errors throughout the paper, hindering comprehension. Sentence structure may be confusing or incomplete.	Some grammar and mechanical errors present, occasionally hindering comprehension. Sentence structure may be awkward at times.	Few grammar and mechanical errors noted. Sentence structure is generally clear and coherent.	Virtually no grammar or mechanical errors observed. Sentence structure is precise and enhances clarity.