ASSESSMENT, DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION (MASTERS OF APPLIED SCIENCE, M.A.S.)

OVERVIEW
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The Differentiated Instruction option is designed to meet the needs of the following professionals:

• Current and future teachers, from early childhood, elementary, and secondary education, who want to learn techniques to more effectively differentiate instruction to better support ALL learners in diverse, inclusive, PreK-12 classrooms
• School administrators, who are interested in improving instructional practices in their school or district
• Current or future educational policy makers, who wish to enhance their understanding of the power of differentiated instruction for meeting the unique needs of ALL learners in diverse, inclusive, PreK-12 classrooms.

Successful completion of the Differentiated Instruction master’s degree, though it will not result in an additional area of teacher certification in the State of Missouri, will prepare graduates to better meet the diverse challenges of teaching in 21st Century classrooms.

In addition to learning how to effectively differentiate instruction for learners who: are English learners, are gifted / talented, are at-risk for school failure (i.e., due to poverty, trauma, or other unique needs), or experience mild / moderate disability, graduate students should gain the following from coursework in the Differentiated Instruction program:

• A deep understanding of fundamental issues associated with the pedagogical approach of differentiating instruction
• Specific skills associated with differentiating:
  • content, what is to be learned
  • process, how learners acquire information
  • product, how learners demonstrate learning and
  • learning environments, where and with whom learners learn
• Knowledge of differentiated instructional methods needed to successfully teach ALL learners in diverse classrooms
• Knowledge of considerations for the selection and effective implementation of multidisciplinary approaches to differentiated instruction
• Opportunities to develop skills of leadership regarding differentiated instruction, including: needs analysis, shared vision, improved communication, adult learning, measurement of efficacy, and overcoming resistance
• Enhanced general knowledge of diverse, inclusive classroom settings
• Training in analytical and critical thinking methods
• Support for an internship experience, which requires the application of content information gained from participation in the M.A.S. program.

What are the unique benefits of the Differentiated Instruction program option at Missouri Western State University?

• All required courses are online; this flexibility allows courses to be completed from anywhere in the world.
• The master’s degree in Differentiated Instruction includes a professional core sequence, which focuses on critical reading of education literature and analyzing research in education.
• Strong foundation in current research in the field of differentiating instructional content, process, product, and learning environments.

Admission
Admission Requirements
Admission to the graduate program in Differentiated Instruction requires meeting all qualifications for acceptance to the Missouri Western State University Graduate School.

• Submission of application for admission to the MWSU Graduate School.
• Completion of an undergraduate degree in education, or a closely related discipline, from an accredited undergraduate institution.
• Minimum undergraduate GPA of 2.75.
• Statement of Purpose: A one-page narrative, which describes his/her purpose for seeking admission to a graduate program, as well as what he/she hopes to gain from the experience.
• The GRE is not required.

Requirements

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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EDU 611</td>
<td>Research Development and Literature Analysis</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>EDU 678 &amp; EDU 679</td>
<td>Master Education Experience I and Master Education Experience II or EDU 630</td>
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<td>EDU 661</td>
<td>Multidisciplinary Approaches in Differentiated Instruction</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>EDU 662</td>
<td>Teacher Leadership for Differentiated Instruction</td>
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<td>TSL 560</td>
<td>Methods of Teaching ELLs</td>
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<td>EDU 677</td>
<td>Advanced Methods, Differentiation, and Instruction</td>
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<td>TSL 562</td>
<td>Materials and Assessments for ELLs</td>
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<td>TSL 664</td>
<td>Language and Culture</td>
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<td>EDU 574</td>
<td>Collaborating with Families and School Personnel for Inclusion</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>EDU 676</td>
<td>Behavioral Interventions</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>PHL 535</td>
<td>Foundations of Professional Ethics</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>Total Credit Hours</td>
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**Graduation Requirements**

1. Filing an approved Application for Graduation.
2. Satisfactory completion of all required coursework as listed on the approved Program of Study.
3. Earn a minimum overall GPA of 3.0, with no more than 6 credit hours of C in all required coursework.
4. Official approval of required Master Educator Experience (or capstone).