



Morningside College

COURSE SYLLABUS ADDENDUM

Important - Please Read - Do Not Discard

It is each student's responsibility to read all course materials, including course syllabus and addendum, and to know and understand the course requirements, exam score minimum requirements, and deadlines. Students enrolled in VESi courses are required to check their email for any communications regarding the course until their final grade is posted with the college or university. Once your course materials are received by VESi and have been reviewed, the GRADE IS FINAL.

Final Case Study Paper – Why DI?: An Introduction to Differentiated Instruction

After completing the examinations, you will be required to write a final case study paper. For the final paper, you will be required to choose a grade level, classroom, and subject for which to develop your instructional program. If you are currently teaching, this may be your own classroom. You may evaluate a daycare facility, church learning environment, or other community learning organization if you are not a current teacher or have limited access to a classroom. For all grade levels and classrooms, you will select one class period and subject area for instructional design. You will articulate the primary methods you used to obtain information about student interests, preferences, and overall learning profile. Also, explain how assessment in the classroom best exemplifies a differentiated approach. You will discuss any barriers encountered when implementing a differentiated classroom. You will analyze ways in which a differentiated approach addresses the role of NCLB in shaping professional practice and understanding of quality teaching. Continue by outlining a framework for motivating all students in a way that is respectful, student-centered, and reflective of a differentiated approach.

Once your initial assessment and analysis have been completed, you will explain the role of curriculum and instruction in your differentiated classroom. Outline the major elements within your classroom that you (the teacher) plan to differentiate. Identify the core principles in the classroom that reflect a differentiated instructional approach. Identify any characteristics and/or strategies used to create a culturally responsive approach to student diversity. Finally, apply your differentiated approach for a minimum of two complete classroom lessons. Finish by summarizing the success of the instruction and any adjustments that should be made to make the instruction more effective. You may also include your impressions of the course, describing portions you enjoyed, sections that did not make sense or were not useful, or the overall value of the course to you personally.

Only typed or word-processed papers will be accepted. Your final case study paper WILL NOT be returned to you. If you would like specific feedback on your final case study paper, you may email the professor and request an email summary.

The paper should be a minimum of 3 pages in length, but no more than 7 pages. Only typed or word-processed papers will be accepted.

Components of the Paper:

- Summarize all observations and assessments, including the dates and situations (classes or activities) in which observations were conducted, the duration of the observation or assessment, and behaviors that were being observed.
- Summarize all personnel interviews.
- Summarize any faculty/administrator debrief sessions.
- Write a rationale for the differentiated program you plan to implement. Include what the learning outcomes should be, an anticipated timeline for implementation and review, and any adjustments you would make to the plan, if any would be needed.
- Write the complete lesson plan(s) to be implemented so it can be understood by students and faculty alike.
- Summarize the project, adding any information you believe is relevant.

This is a professional paper, so spelling, grammar, punctuation, and writing style will be expected to be at a graduate or professional level. Papers will be graded down if they are poorly written.

Textbook Reading Assignments and Exams

You are required to read *Integrating Differentiated Instruction & Understanding by Design: Connecting Content and Kids* by Tomlinson, C. A., & McTighe, J., and then you will take a 25-question examination to assess your comprehension of the material covered in the book. To take the exam for this textbook reading assignment, click on **EXAMS** and then on **TEXTBOOK EXAM 1**. **You must score a minimum of 70% on this exam to pass this course.**

You are also required to read *Differentiated Instructional Strategies: One Size Doesn't Fit All* by Gregory, G. H., & Chapman, C. M. and then you will take a 25-question examination to assess your comprehension of the material covered in the book. To take the exam for this textbook reading assignment, click on **EXAMS** and then on **TEXTBOOK EXAM 2**. **You must score a minimum of 70% on this exam to pass this course.**

Grading Criteria

You must complete each examination with a minimum score of 70% or higher and complete ALL writing assignments to pass this course. This graduate level course requires a minimum passing grade of “C-” to receive credit. 50% of your grade will be figured on your examination scores and 50% will be figured on your written assignments, including your final paper. The average from your exam scores will be printed on your certificate. However, this is not your final grade since your required writing assignments have not been reviewed. Exceptionally written or poorly written required writing assignments, or violation of the academic integrity policy in the course syllabus, will affect your grade.

No grade will be submitted for partial completion of course assignments, regardless of partial scores.

You must pass each course examination. If you fail any chapter exam, you WILL NOT receive course credit.

Letter grades will be assigned as follows:

95% to 100% A	80% to 83% B-
90% to 94% A-	77% to 79% C+
87% to 89% B+	74% to 76% C
84% to 86% B	70% to 73% C-

Course Completion Information

Grading will take approximately two weeks from the time your materials are received by the instructor, after which we will submit grades to the university weekly. If you have a timeline to meet certain school or state requirements, please keep this time period in mind when planning your course completion dates.

Course Completion Instructions

- **Course Evaluation:** Please take a moment to fill out the course evaluation by clicking on Course Evaluation on the menu to the left.
- **Online Submit (requires Internet access at the time of submission):** Select this command to submit your course materials for final grade. You can only submit the course grade ONE TIME. Be sure that you have completed all requirements and exams.
- **Final Case Study Paper:** Please email your Final Case Study Paper to grades@virtualeduc.com.
- **Print Certificate:** You can print a copy of your course certificate for your records.

***** NOTE***** You have **six months** from your registration date to return the completed materials to VESi.

If you have questions that are not course-specific, please refer to the university catalog or contact the university directly to obtain answers to questions about extensions, withdrawals, transcripts, or any other university business