

# DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION, POST- MASTER'S ADVANCED CERTIFICATE

**Program Director: René Hauser, Ph.D.**

This program is designed for special and/or general education teachers who wish to specialize in differentiated instruction for inclusive classrooms. This program has been designed in response to the need for teachers skilled in differentiated instruction strategies appropriate to the growing population of learners who are diverse in their learning and/or behavioral characteristics.

## Information about Certification

New York: The program leads to a certificate extension in New York State, Gifted Education (formerly titled Differentiated Instruction). The only candidates recommended by the School of Education for New York State's Gifted Education extension without the master's degree are those who have already attained professional (or permanent) certification.

## Admission Requirements

The admission committee reviews the following in considering candidates for this program:

1. Candidate holds a teaching certificate and a Master's degree
2. Transcripts from all colleges previously attended
3. References
  - a. Ability to do graduate work
  - b. Success as a teacher
4. Interview
5. Writing Sample
6. Test scores: GRE, MAT or another substantially equivalent test
7. Additional information, if requested by program director

## Course Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
DIFF-503	ASSESSMENT - STUDENT W EXCEPTIONALITIES	3
DIFF-504	COMM/COLL SKILL STND-BASE INCLUSIV EDUC	3
DIFF-510	DIFFERENTIATED INSTR STRAT.	3
DIFF-511	FOUND/INCLUSIVE EDUCATION	3
DIFF-598	PRACTICUM IN GIFTED EDUCATION	2
DIFF-600	CAPSTONE RESEARCH FOR DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION	2
EDUC-599K	EXPERIENCE IN DIVERSE ENVIRONMENTS	0
Total Credits		16

## Field-Experience Requirements

St. Bonaventure's teacher preparation programs are extensively field-based, and students should expect field-based projects on a routine basis in DIFF courses. DIFF-510 requires 15 hours of field-work with

students and disabilities. The Office of Field Studies assists students in arranging field placements for these projects

Also, in this degree program students are expected to complete a practicum experience of 50 clock hours differentiating instruction for students who learn at a pace and level significantly different from that of their classmates (including, but not limited to, students with special gifts and talents).

Students who are teaching in a K-12 school setting may be eligible to complete the practicum in their own school or district. This experience is individualized, and should be discussed with the adviser during the first semester of the program so that appropriate arrangements can be coordinated. Practicum application forms are available from the Office of Field Services. The practicum experience is a component of DIFF-598, Contemporary Field Research and Practicum in Standard-based Differentiated Instruction.

## Exit Criteria

In order to successfully complete the program, a student will be evaluated on the following exit criteria:

1. A cumulative GPA of at least 3.0
2. Successful completion of the internship
3. Submission of a portfolio showing professional growth and accomplishments
4. Successful completion of the capstone project