

Teaching Excellence in Adult Literacy (TEAL): Differentiated Instruction

Summary and Objectives

Audience: Adult Basic Education (ABE) instructors

Summary: Differentiated instruction is an approach that enables instructors to plan strategically to meet the needs of every learner. The approach encompasses planning and delivery of instruction, classroom management techniques, and expectations of learners' performance that take into consideration the diversity and varied levels of readiness, interests, and learning profiles of learners.

Objectives:

- Define differentiated instruction
- Identify research on differentiated instruction
- Explain how to apply differentiated instruction in the adult education classroom
- Plan for incorporating differentiated instruction strategies into your teaching

Course Logistics

Format: facilitated, online

Estimated Completion Time: approximately 2 hours per week; 6 hours total

Expectations: Participants are expected to read and post at least once in each forum (not each discussion thread) and journal; watch recorded presentations; read the background readings and resource pages of the course; and complete assignments and the final evaluation. Download a Certificate of Completion upon successful completion of course requirements.

Course Topics

Let's get started

- *Journal:* Rate your knowledge: What do you know about differentiated instruction?
- Face-to-face learning vs. online learning

What is differentiated instruction?

- *Readings and video:* general background
- *Forum:* How do you differentiate writing instruction?
- *Forum:* How do you differentiate math instruction?

Let's put differentiated instruction in context

- *Video:* Gradual Release of Responsibility
- *Wiki:* Shifting the Balance of Responsibility
- *Wiki:* Flexible groupings: Share your ideas

Assignments: Choose One

- **General:** Explore differentiated instruction in greater depth
- **Writing:** Differentiate one of your writing lessons
- **Writing:** Use and review tech tools for managing differentiated instruction
- **Math:** Differentiate one of your math lessons
- **Math:** Use and review tools for managing differentiated math instruction

Self-assessment

- *Questionnaire:* Answer 12 questions

Take time to reflect on your own goals and progress

- *Wiki:* Plan to incorporate DI in your teaching!
- Set your personal teaching goal for differentiated instruction

Wrap up and summary

- *Recording:* Course Recap

**For information on course availability,
contact the LINCS Professional Development Center at pdcenter@lincs.ed.gov**

<http://lincs.ed.gov>

