

**SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
SUMMER SEMESTER 2009**

**EDUC 428W-4
NATURE AND NURTURE OF GIFTED STUDENTS
(E100)**

Dr. Lannie Kanevsky

Office: EDB 8629
Phone: 778-782-5965

Email: Lannie_Kanevsky@sfu.ca

Monday 17:30-21:20 in EDB 7600B

PREREQUISITES

EDUC 220 or Psyc 250 or Psyc 302, and Educ 401/402

DESCRIPTION

What distinguishes gifted students from their peers? And what are the consequences of these differences for teaching and learning? Like their peers, gifted individuals bring many resources and challenges into classrooms. Students in this course will examine procedures and controversies surrounding the identification and education of these students in mixed-ability classrooms and special programs. Curriculum differentiation will be a major theme. The course will involve a blend of "face-to-face," online, self-directed and collaborative activities. Participants will prepare written assignments based on required reading prior to each class. This writing will become the basis for in-class activities with classmates.

OBJECTIVES

Students in this course will improve their:

1. Understanding of conceptions of giftedness.
2. Ability to recognize the behavioral characteristics of gifted students and their sources.
3. Ability to design learning experiences appropriate for individual highly able learners.
4. Understanding of the procedures used to identify/select students for differentiated programs.

ASSIGNMENTS

- Paper (2 versions: draft & final copy)
- Curriculum Activity
- Notebook (collection of written responses to readings, in-class and out-of-class activities, resources, handouts, etc.)

NOTE: This course is graded on a Pass-Fail basis. Students must pass all assignments in order to pass the course.

REQUIRED READINGS

- Students will be charged a \$25.00 materials fee. The fee will be used to cover the cost of photocopying required readings and handouts.
- Kanevsky, L. (1999). Tool Kit for Curriculum Differentiation. Burnaby, BC: SFU. (This book will

be available for purchase in class.)