



UNSW
SYDNEY

Arts & Social Sciences

School of Education

EDST5803

**Developing Effective Programs for Gifted
Students**

**Term 1, 2020
(online)**

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IMPORTANT:

For student policies and procedures relating to assessment, attendance and student support, please see website, <https://education.arts.unsw.edu.au/students/courses/course-outlines/>

The School of Education acknowledges the Bedegal people as the traditional custodians of the lands upon which we learn and teach.

1. LOCATION

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
School of Education
EDST5803 Developing Effective Programs for Gifted Students
Term 1, 2020

2. STAFF CONTACT DETAILS

Course Coordinator: Dr Peta Hay
Office Location: Morven Brown, Rm G25
Email: p.hay@unsw.edu.au
Phone: 9385 1037
Availability: By appointment

3. COURSE DETAILS

Course Name	Developing Effective Programs for Gifted Students
Credit Points	6 units of credit (uoc)
Workload	Includes 150 hours including lectures, readings, discussion and workshops, assessment, follow up activities, etc.
Schedule	http://classutil.unsw.edu.au/EDST_T1.html

SUMMARY OF COURSE

This course focuses on current research on the component of appropriate program development for gifted and talented students. Program models currently used in Australia and internationally will be critically evaluated. You will be required to conduct needs analyses, develop program goals and design programs appropriate for gifted students within the administrative structures and education systems of their state or country. Research on the effectiveness of enrichment, acceleration and various forms of ability, achievement and interesting grouping will be closely examined, with particular attention to the effects of these strategies on the student's academic and social development. The need for counselling and mentoring in programs for gifted students and programs designed to include minority, twice exceptional and underachieving students will also be a focus.

THE MAIN WAYS IN WHICH THE COURSE HAS CHANGED SINCE LAST TIME AS A RESULT OF STUDENT FEEDBACK:

- The course was positively received by students last year. There are new digital resources and slight adjustments for flow of content.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Outcome		Assessment/s
1	Demonstrate a proficient understanding of the current educational and social issues and attitudes affecting the development of special programs for gifted students in the Australian and international context.	1, 2
2	Discuss ways in which intellectually gifted students differ from age-peers in both their cognitive and socioaffective development, and the implications of this for ability grouping and acceleration.	1, 2
3	Analyse the appropriateness of a range of ability grouping and accelerative procedures for gifted students in their particular school context.	1, 2
4	Evaluate the effectiveness of educator's current school or jurisdiction policy on the education of gifted and talented students, in terms of how effective a platform it provides for program development.	1,2
5	Make professional decisions, on the basis of research findings, on the development, in educator's schools, of programs of ability grouping and acceleration for academically gifted students.	1, 2

PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES

Capability		Assessment/s
	Advanced disciplinary knowledge and practices	
1	Demonstrate an advanced understanding of the field of inclusive education as it relates to their specialist area of study, and the ability to synthesize and apply disciplinary principles and practices to new or complex environments.	1, 2
	Enquiry-based learning	
2	Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of research-based learning and the ability to plan, analyse, present implement and evaluate complex activities that contribute to advanced professional practice and/or intellectual scholarship in education.	1, 2
	Cognitive skills and critical thinking	
3	Demonstrate advanced critical thinking and problem-solving skills.	1, 2
	Communication, adaptive and interactional skills	
4	Communicate effectively to a range of audiences and be capable of independent and collaborative enquiry and team-based leadership.	1, 2
	Global outlook	
5	Demonstrate an understanding of international perspectives relevant to the educational field	1, 2
	Ethics	
6	Demonstrate an advanced capacity to recognise and negotiate the complex and often contested values and ethical practices that underlie education	1, 2

4. RATIONALE FOR THE INCLUSION OF CONTENT AND TEACHING APPROACH

The content of the course provides an overview of the major issues that may be relevant to educational programming for gifted and talented students. Online lectures, workshops, activities, and required readings explore current theory and practice on a range of issues in the grouping and acceleration of gifted and talented students, allowing students of the course to learn new information and skills. Student ideas will be refined through online post discussions and educational activities, which will assist students to become more thoroughly familiar with practices which are shown to be effective in programming for gifted and talented students.

These activities, and the two assessments, will also enhance students' ability to assess, alter and adapt programming options that are currently used in order to reflect research-based practice and contextual needs.

5. TEACHING STRATEGIES

The course includes a variety of learning strategies that focus on providing flexible and personal learning through the use of online lessons. The course engages students in learning through the use of online lectures and workshops presented by a variety of local and international expert educators in the field of gifted education. Online weekly activities will use a range of teaching strategies to involve students in critical, creative and reflective thinking processes. Online discussion forums will allow students to challenge and refine their ideas with peers and tutors, and to share from their personal experience. Students will be encouraged to critically evaluate their current practices and understanding of programming for gifted students, and to redesign practices on the basis of current research. The self-directed reading provided online will broaden student understanding of current research and practice in the area of programming for gifted students. The preparation of written assignments will draw on student reflection on current practice, assist with thinking about how to disseminate their learning in their work environment, and consider ways to evaluate and enhance current practice within the classroom, and across school and education systems.

6. COURSE CONTENT AND STRUCTURE

The course is structured to be completed online for 8 weeks. Each of these weeks will require approximately 3 hours per week for online activities (24 contact hours for the course). This time should be used each week to complete the learning activities (See Moodle each week for weekly activities). Learning activities each week will involve viewing lectures* and workshops (topics listed below), writing and reflecting in response to weekly activity questions, and posting and responding to posts on the discussion forums. Additional readings are also required for each week (See Moodle).

* All lectures are pre-recorded.

Module	Topic Questions, Lectures & Workshops
1	Topic 1: How can I assess what is currently provided for gifted students at my school?
2	Topic 2: How can ability and achievement grouping be used effectively for gifted students?
3	Topic 3: How can counselling and mentoring be used effectively for gifted students?
4	Topic 4: How can acceleration be utilised effectively for gifted students?
5	Topic 5: How has Australia responded to gifted students' needs?
6	Topic 6: How can I start to implement a program for gifted students?
7	Topic 7: How do I program for specific groups of gifted students?
8	Topic 8: How do I ensure my program remains relevant, and maintain high standards?

7. RESOURCES

All reading materials will be supplied to students via the Moodle website.

8. ASSESSMENT

Assessment Task	Length	Weight	Student Learning Outcomes Assessed	Program Learning Outcomes Assessed	Due Date
Assessment 1: Program Evaluation	2500 words	40%	1 – 5	1 – 6	Wednesday 11/3/18, 5pm
Assessment 2: Program Proposal	3500 words	60%	1 – 5	1 – 6	Tuesday 21/4/18, 5pm
Week-to-Week Posts	Completion of task - varies	Hurdle Task	1 - 5	1 - 6	Week 1 -10

Submission of assessments

Students are required to follow their lecturer's instructions when submitting their work for assessment. All assessment will be submitted online via Moodle by 5pm. Students are also required to keep all drafts, original data and other evidence of the authenticity of the work for at least one year after examination. If an assessment is mislaid the student is responsible for providing a further copy. Please see the Student Policies and Procedures for information regarding submission, extensions, special consideration, late penalties and hurdle requirements etc. <https://education.arts.unsw.edu.au/students/courses/course-outlines/>

Assessment Details

Assessment 1: Gifted Program Evaluation (Problem finding)

Write a program evaluation report (2500 words) of a current, past or hypothetical school.

Assessment 2: Program Proposal (Action)

Write a program proposal to address needs identified in Assessment 1 (3500 words). More Assessment details are available on Moodle.

NB: All referencing should follow APA 6th Edition guidelines (see Moodle for supporting material on referencing).

UNSW SCHOOL OF EDUCATION
 FEEDBACK SHEET
 EDST5803 DEVELOPING EFFECTIVE PROGRAMS FOR GIFTED STUDENTS

Student Name:
 Assessment Task: Program Evaluation

Student No.:

SPECIFIC CRITERIA	(-) → (+)				
Understanding of the question or issue and the key concepts involved <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exhibits accurate and elaborated breadth and depth of understanding of the key concepts in the course. Applies theory to school context and acknowledges complexities around practical applications of research. 					
Depth of analysis and/or critique in response to the task <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presents insightful and accurate interpretation of the research evidence; establishes strengths and weaknesses of research; and presents an in-depth analysis and evaluation of major points of view. Effectively reflects on and evaluates teaching practices and school-wide programming for gifted students. 					
Familiarity with and relevance of professional and/or research literature used to support response <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uses sources that are relevant to educational needs of gifted students and effective programming strategies. Demonstrates thorough understanding of the key issues and findings of the research and literature. research pertaining to the educational needs of gifted students and appropriate programming for gifted students. 					
Structure and organisation of response <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All expectations and conventions followed for a formal report, with all expected attributes present and creatively interpreted to suit personal style and specific execution of the task. A unique but appropriate presentation of work. Highly organised and easy to follow. All information is clear, highly appropriate, and consistently correct. 					
Presentation of response according to appropriate academic and linguistic conventions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clear, consistent and appropriate use of conventions for quoting, paraphrasing, attributing sources, and listing references. Clear and appropriate use of sentence structure, vocabulary, spelling, punctuation and word length. 					
GENERAL COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS FOR NEXT TIME					

Lecturer Date
 Recommended: /20 (FL PS CR DN HD) Weighting: 40%

NB: The ticks in the various boxes are designed to provide feedback to students; they are not given equal weight in determining the recommended grade. Depending on the nature of the assessment task, lecturers may also contextualize and/or amend these specific criteria. **The recommended grade is tentative only, subject to standardisation processes and approval by the School of Education Learning and Teaching Committee.**

