

**St. Bonaventure University**  
**School of Education**  
**DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION MASTER'S PROGRAMS**



The School of Education and all of our programs are nationally accredited

***Hallmarks of the Differentiated Instruction Programs***

1. This program is designed to meet the professional standards for BOTH gifted and special education and can lead toward both the gifted certification extension (Pre-K-12) and a students with disabilities certification in one of the following developmental areas: Birth – grade 2, grades 1-7, OR 7-12 generalist.
2. Our focus is inclusive education - to educate students together, vs. segregating them by their disability or gifted label, thereby deeply valuing the individual dignity of exceptional student in the public school system.

***What makes us different?***

- Our master's programs are extensively field-based. We give our students the opportunity to utilize the content they learn in local schools. Most students who have teaching jobs can complete the majority of their field work in their own classrooms. Additionally, we maintain close relationships with schools near both the Olean and the Buffalo Center campuses for students who may need placements in which to complete their fieldwork.
- Our programs are offered at both the Olean campus in the evenings Monday through Thursday and at our Buffalo Center on the Hilbert College campus in Hamburg, NY on Friday evenings and Saturdays.
- All courses focus on meeting the needs of both students who are gifted and students with disabilities. Students in both the Differentiated Instruction and the Differentiated Instruction – Students with Disabilities programs take the same 10 courses together. The only difference is an extended practicum working with students with disabilities for those in the DIFF – SWD program.

***What makes our grads great? They become***

- Teachers who advocate for the needs of ALL learners
- Teachers who understand the special academic, social and behavioral needs of diverse learners AND have the skills and the specialized knowledge with which to meet those needs
- Leaders and as well as knowledgeable resources for other teachers in their buildings and districts



## Frequently Asked Questions...Differentiated Instruction Master's Degree at St. Bonaventure University

What certification can I get?

Can I do this master's program with my bachelor's degree?

You can get the gifted certification extension (Pre-K-12) in the DIFF program and the gifted and students with disabilities (either B-2, 1-6, or 7-12 generalist) in the DIFF-SWD

This master's degree program is designed for people who have already gone through an initial teacher preparation program in any content area and at any grade level.

What is a "7-12 generalist"?

The 7-12 generalist certification qualifies you for resource and consultant teaching positions and classes where all of the students are doing an alternate performance assessment.

I already have special education certification. What should I do?

You can complete the master's in Differentiated Instruction and get your gifted certification OR the master's in Differentiated Instruction – Students with Disabilities and get an additional special education certification at another developmental level.

How long does this program take?

The DIFF (GT) program can be done in one year at the Olean campus and 16 months at the Buffalo Center. The DIFF – SWD program takes three semesters in Olean and 24 months at the Buffalo Center.

What do I need to do to apply?

**Yes.** We have several financial incentives, including graduate assistantships, the Dean's graduate scholarships and special arrangements with school districts and agencies.

Is there financial aid?

Apply online at: <http://www.sbu.edu/admission-aid/graduate-admissions/apply-now>

You will need two recommendation letters and official transcripts from any other institutions you attended. The program director will contact you to schedule an interview and writing sample. .

For more information, contact Dr. René Hauser, Director at [rhauser@sbu.edu](mailto:rhauser@sbu.edu)  
Or (716) 375-4078