Course Title: Challenging Gifted Students in the General Education Classroom	
Number of Content Modules: 5	**Grade Levels:** PreK-12
Questions: 1-855-498-4400 PD@TeachnKidsLearn.com	**TKL Catalog:** https://teachingknowledgeloop.com/external-catalog

Course Description

The nature of giftedness is complex and multifaceted. Students with gifts and talents have the capacity to perform at levels exceeding those of their peers of the same age, experience levels, and educational environments in at least one domain. Such students may demonstrate uneven development, requiring enrichment and acceleration in areas of exceptional strength and accommodations or interventions in underdeveloped domains. To effectively serve students with gifts and talents, teachers must modify educational experiences to ensure gifted students fully realize their personal, social, and academic potential.

This course provides proven methods for classroom teachers to meet the unique needs of gifted students. You will learn how giftedness is defined and identified, strategies for enriching student learning using complex, compelling instruction, and techniques to partner with families of gifted students. You will explore influences on the performance of gifted students and learn about the characteristics of twice-exceptional gifted students. The course includes instructional strategies such as inquiry learning, metacognition, technology integration, curriculum compacting, tiered lesson planning, and problem-based learning that stimulate and challenge gifted learners and twice-exceptional learners to meet their educational needs.

Completing this course will help your gifted students become capable, independent thinkers and communicators.

Course Objectives

CO.1: Structure a predictable, welcoming, and affirming learning environment to provide equitable access to learning for students who are gifted and twice-exceptional. [Danielson Component 2a, 2b, 3c, 4e]

CO.2: Distinguish how student identity along the diversity dimensions of learning exceptionalities, learning preferences, race, gender, ethnicity, and cultural background influences learning. [Danielson Component 1b, 2b, 3c, 4e]

CO.3: Evaluate how socio-cultural backgrounds and teacher biases influence equitable teaching practices and learning opportunities for gifted and twice-exceptional students. [Danielson Component 1b, 2a, 4e]

CO.4: Apply instructional strategies (i.e., student choice, flexible grouping, paired text, collaborative discussions, inquiry, storytelling) to increase student interest in reading and deepen comprehension. [Danielson Component 1a, 1b, 1c, 1e, 2a, 2b, 2c, 3c, 3e, 4a, 4e]

CO.5: Use research-based instructional strategies that help gifted and twice-exceptional students direct their attention and sustain focus on relevant learning tasks. [Danielson Component 1a, 1b, 2a, 2b, 3c, 4e]

CO.6: Design lessons promoting culturally and linguistically diverse viewpoints, perspectives, counternarratives, and discussions. [Danielson Component 1b, 1e, 2a, 2b, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3e, 4a, 4e]

CO.7: Develop home-school partnerships using asset-based, culturally responsive approaches when communicating with families. [Danielson Component 1b, 2a, 3a, 3c, 4c, 4e]

Course Outline

Course Introduction Module

Module Topics

In this module, you will learn about the course set-up, expectations for learning and collaborating, meet your colleagues, and reflect on your prior knowledge about teaching gifted students in the general education classroom.

- Course Navigation and Methodology
- Course Description
- A Transformative Approach to Education
- Expectations and Community Agreements for Engaging in Brave Dialogue
- Community Building Circle: Course Story
- Course Objectives

Module 1: What is Giftedness?

Module Topics

The module will help you learn the characteristics of giftedness in PreK-12 students. You will also learn effective practices that foster academic and personal success for gifted students within the general education classroom. You will consider the impact of personal identity, teacher bias, and culture on teaching and learning. As a result of your learning and reflections, you will shift your beliefs, norms, assumptions, and practices, resulting in more productive learning for gifted students in the general education classroom.

Section 1: Who are Gifted Students and What are their Characteristics?
- Reflect on It! How Much Do You Already Know About Gifted Students?
- Learn About It! What is Giftedness?
- Learn About It! Who Are the Gifted?
- Learn About It! Characteristics of a Gifted Student
- Reflect on It! Diving Deeper into the Characteristics of Gifted Students
- Reflect on It! Thinking About Our Students
- Learn About It! Common Myths in Gifted Education
- Reflect on It! Personal Reflection
- Reflect on It! Understanding the "Robo" Student
- Practice It! Identifying Your Gifted Students
- Practice It! Practice Your Learning
- Master It! Identifying Perfectionism in Gifted Students

Module 2: Supporting Students Who Are Gifted
Module Topics

In this module, you will examine various forms of metacognitive and higher-order thinking. You will reflect on issues related to equitable learning practices and apply culturally competent techniques in your classroom. You will also explore the value of feedback for learning and use your learning and reflections to shift your beliefs and change your existing practices to meet the equitable learning needs of your students.

Section 1: Thinking and Learning for Students Who Are Gifted
- Learn About It! Serving Gifted Students in the General Ed Classroom
- Reflect on It! Creating a Welcoming Environment for Gifted Students
- Learn About It! Building a Culture of Rigor
- Learn About It! Bloom's Taxonomy
- Learn About It! Using Complex Reasoning
- Practice It! Webb's Depth of Knowledge Model
- Learn About It! What is Metacognition and Why Does it Matter
- Learn About It! Brain Breaks to Activate Learning
- Reflect on It! Metacognition and How We Think
- Learn About It! How Learning Happens in the Classroom
- Learn About It! Not All Brains Work the Same
- Practice It! Putting it Into Practice: Revising a Lesson

Section 2: Exploring Thinking and Giving Feedback for Students Who are Gifted
- Reflect on It! Critical Thinking for Higher Achievement
- Learn About It! Feedback Strengthens Learning
- Reflect on It! Reflecting on Feedback
- Learn About It! Nurturing Diverse Talents and Ways of Thinking
- Learn About It! Using Real-World Problems for Learning
- Practice It! Supporting Diverse Learners

Module 3: Effective Practices for Gifted Learners
Module Topics

In this module, you will learn the various curriculum delivery models for gifted students. This includes curriculum differentiation, curriculum compacting, and classroom cluster groups to meet the equitable instructional needs of diverse students who are gifted. You will also learn to provide differentiated learning practices, including mentors, tiered instruction, problem-based learning, and the use of community resources to meet learner needs. Finally, you will learn to use effective instructional practices to help you understand gifted students and change existing practices to improve the academic performance of these students.

Section 1: Differentiating the Curriculum with Choice, Challenge, and Individualization
- Learn About It! Nurturing High Achievement in Diverse Gifted Students
- Learn About It! Differentiating Instruction to Meet Learner Needs
- Reflect on It! Challenging and Enriching Learning for Gifted Students
- Learn About It! Helping Gifted Students Take Risks
- Learn About It! Giving Students Voice Through Projects

Section 2: Meeting the Diverse Needs of Gifted and High Ability Students
- Learn About It! Meeting Learner Needs with Curriculum Compacting
- Reflect on It! Leveraging Curriculum Compacting
- Reflect on It! Cluster Grouping of Gifted Students
- Learn About It! Supporting Learning with Mentors and Role Models
- Practice It! Matching Mentors to Diverse Learners
- Learn About It! Programs for Gifted Primary Students
- Learn About It! Using Acceleration to Meet the Needs of Gifted Students
- Reflect on It! Case Study on Acceleration
- Practice It! Planning for Student Support
- Reflect on It! Tiered Instruction for Student Success
- Master It! Creating a Three-Tiered Lesson Plan

Module 4: Building Partnerships with the Families of Gifted Students
Module Topics

In this module, you will learn strategies for building positive partnerships and effectively communicating with families of gifted students.

Section 1: Building Partnerships with the Families of Gifted Students
- Learn About It! Partnering with Families for Student Success
- Learn About It! Supporting the Families of Gifted Students

- Learn About It! Creating Balance between Home and School Life
- Practice It! Reflecting on Parent Questions
- Master It! Parent Communication Letter

Module 5: Serving Twice-Exceptional Students

Module Topics

This module will help you understand the concept of the twice-exceptional gifted student, their needs, and their characteristics. You will learn how to support twice-exceptional students using various supports and scaffolds in the classroom. You will also learn effective strategies for working with families of a twice-exceptional student.

Section 1: Understanding and Serving Twice-Exceptional Students
- Learn About It! What is a Twice-Exceptional Student?
- Reflect on It! Identifying and Supporting Twice-Exceptional Students
- Reflect on It! Being a Twice-Exceptional Student
- Reflect on It! Using a Strengths-Based Approach for Twice-Exceptional Students
- Learn About It! Supporting Academic Growth in Twice-Exceptional Students
- Reflect on It! Working with the Families of Twice-Exceptional Students
- Master It! Creating a Case Study of a Twice-Exceptional Student

Module 6: Course Wrap-Up

Module Topics

In the Course Wrap-Up Module, you will reflect on your learning from the course and your mastery of the course objectives.

Section 1: Summative Reflection
- Reflect On It! Summative Reflection
- Reflect On It! Course Evaluation and Reference List