

# Differentiated Instruction: (adapted from Carol Ann Tomlinson's work)

Instruction to students is customized to match student's readiness levels and needs. This involves differences in the following:

1. **Content** – what the student needs to learn or how the student will get access to information. Present multiple levels and kinds of learning materials. Incorporating individual student interests to increase their motivation to learn.
2. **Process** – activities in which the student engages in order to make sense of or master the content. Flexible instructional groupings according to instructional objectives. Provide different learning experiences contrasting the depth and complexity of tasks.
3. **Products** – culminating projects that ask the student to rehearse, apply, and extend what he or she has learned in a unit.
4. **Learning Environment** – the way the classroom works and feels.

Instruction is customized to match student needs, rather than whole-class instruction dominating. It allows for student choice. Small groups of students frequently work together or with the teacher on different levels of concepts and skills. Excellence is not defined by a grade, but by achievement growth over time.