



Differentiation

What is differentiation?

Differentiation means either:

- creating different simultaneous activities so that students of different abilities, interest or learning needs, experience equally appropriate ways to learn
- or creating activities that reflect the learning level of the student.

It also allows students to take greater responsibility and ownership for their own learning, which can be very effective in a vocational course.

Why we need differentiation

Classes are made up of very different students:

- No two students are alike.
- No two students learn in the identical way.
- An enriched and interesting learning environment for one student is not necessarily enriched and interesting for another.

Therefore although vocational courses offer the same learning outcomes for all students, methodologies employed in a classroom should be varied to suit to the individual needs of the students whatever their ability, preferred learning style or background i.e. learning needs to be differentiated to be effective.