

College of Education Diversity Survey for Teacher Candidates
Maria Sargent

NCATE (National Council of Accreditation of Teacher Education), our accrediting body, defines diversity as “Differences among groups of people and individuals based on ethnicity, race, socioeconomic status, gender, exceptionalities, language, religion, sexual orientation, and geographical area”.

Using the guidelines, place the correct number in the blank after each statement for the number that best describes your beliefs about each of the following statements. The letters in the parentheses stand for Knowledge skills and applications, reflective practice, and professional and ethical behavior from the conceptual framework.

1	2	3	4	5
Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree

Diversity: Exceptionality

As related to the education of a child:

Being intellectually gifted

Being physically or especially mentally handicapped to an extent that special schooling is required

Categories of students with disabilities:

1. Intellectual – superior intelligence as well as those who are slow to learn
2. Communicative – specific learning disabilities or speech or language impairments
3. Sensory – auditory or visual disabilities
4. Behavioral – emotionally disturbed or socially maladjusted
5. Physical – orthopedic or mobility disabilities
6. Multiple – combination of major conditions
7. Autism – characteristics of autism spectrum disorder
8. Other Health Impaired – medical condition such as ADHD, which impairs learning. (Source: Orlich et al, *Teaching Strategies* and the Tennessee Department of Education Special Education Handbook).

I have the knowledge and skills necessary to...

1. Consider these exceptionalities when designing instruction. (RP) _____
2. Understand strategies to address differentiated instruction and make accommodations in the classroom. (KSA) _____
3. Understand classroom management strategies which may be appropriate for a variety of exceptional students. (KSA) _____
4. Recognize the need for appropriate accommodations during field experiences. (PEB) _____