ASSISTANT PROFESSOR/GIFTED EDUCATION  
GRADUATE STUDIES IN EDUCATION  
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION  
TENURE TRACK  

PREFERRED START DATE: JULY 1, 2019


Founded in 1890, Whitworth has been consistently ranked among the top regional colleges and universities in the West. In its strong liberal arts undergraduate education and graduate programs, Whitworth combines the Christian heritage of the university, its commitment to academic rigor and its long-standing orientation toward human service. A community of Christian scholars carries out the university’s mission “to provide its diverse student body an education of the mind and heart.”

The School of Education at Whitworth University offers undergraduate and graduate programs for the initial preparation of teachers and master’s degree programs for the preparation of administrators, counselors, and advanced preparation for teachers. The School is housed in Dixon Hall and has 21 fulltime faculty and 14 support staff. All professional education programs are approved by the Washington Professional Educator Standards Board.

As the only university in Washington offering an online Master of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T.), Emphasis in Gifted and Talented degree, Whitworth prepares its professionals with the skills and experience they need to help meet the academic and social needs of highly capable learners. The Center for Gifted Education also offers an online Gifted Education Specialty Endorsement program, professional development courses for educators, counselors, and administrators, and hosts annual institutes in the field of gifted education. The Gifted Education program has an Endowed Chair in Gifted Education.

FUNCTION:

Whitworth is seeking highly qualified applicants for a tenure-track assistant professor in Gifted Education. The incumbent will be part of the faculty in the Graduate Studies in Education (GSE) with responsibilities for face-to-face and on-line teaching, the related student advising for graduate courses, and administrative responsibilities in the Gifted Education program. This position reports to the Associate Dean for Graduate Studies in Education and Diversity Initiatives, works closely with the Margo Long Endowed Chair in Gifted Education, teaches gifted education, educational psychology, and curriculum courses in the graduate program, supervises practicum students, provides administrative support for the Gifted Education program, and assists in the preparation and teaching at Whitworth’s Center for Gifted Education institutes.

The Successful Candidate Will Have the Opportunity To:

Teach online and campus-based courses in the M.A.T. Emphasis in Gifted and Talented and the Gifted Education Specialty Endorsement programs; teach in undergraduate and master’s degree programs in teacher education as appropriate.

Provide leadership and assume administrative responsibilities in the Gifted Education programs and work closely with the Margo Long Endowed Chair in planning gifted and talented institutes and other professional development opportunities for educators.

Provide region-wide leadership to promote both the M.A.T. Emphasis in Gifted and Talented and the Gifted Education Specialty Endorsement programs and recruit candidates for same.

Provide state and national leadership in advancing an understanding of programs to address the needs of gifted learners.

Engage in research, publications, and professional presentations to serve the mission of the University and of its Center for Gifted Education.

Build relationships with K-12 districts and educational agencies in the region.

Supporting functions:

a. Work closely with the Margo Long Endowed Chair in Gifted Education to guide the academic programs and assist with other Center activities

b. Serve on the advisory committee for the Center for Gifted Education

c. Serve as graduate advisor to students in the gifted education programs
Collaborate with School of Education colleagues to implement a program of instruction consistent with the School of Education conceptual framework and state teacher education standards and national gifted education standards. Demonstrate a commitment to excellence in education through teaching, service, continued professional development, and scholarship.

TO SUCCEED IN THIS ROLE CANDIDATES WILL NEED:

We are seeking a dynamic teacher and visionary team leader who is passionate about advocating for and teaching gifted children and youth, including gifted students from historically under-represented populations.

Education: Terminal degree (PhD or EdD) in Gifted Education or a related field. (ABD candidates with anticipated graduation date will be considered); experience developing coursework and teaching in an online program preferred; undergraduate or master’s level preparation in a discipline commonly taught in K-12 (e.g., humanities, social studies, math, science) preferred.

Higher Education Experience: University level teaching experience preferred. Evidence of strong relational skills with students and colleague, as well as potential for effectiveness in university-level teaching, required.

K-12 Experience: Three years of K-12 experience required; experience teaching students that are gifted and/or leading gifted and talented education programs preferred.

Scholarship: Developing and maintaining a high level of productivity in research and scholarly activities that include presenting and publishing in the field of gifted education. History or strong potential for soliciting external funds for research preferred.

State/National Involvement: Involvement and leadership in state and national professional organizations preferred. Interest in involvement at the state and national level required.

Accreditation: Understanding of Washington state K-12 highly capable program standards and an awareness of the National Association for Gifted Children (NAGC) standards and assessment preferred.

Other Requirements: A personal commitment to the Christian faith and to the integration of faith and learning; the ability and desire to establish a positive relationship with persons regardless of race, gender, physical limitation or religious belief; a commitment to equal opportunity; and a commitment to the educational mission of Whitworth University as a Christian liberal arts university affiliated with the Presbyterian church.

IF THIS SOUNDS LIKE THE JOB FOR YOU:

The following documents are required to complete the online application form at www.whitworth.edu/jobs:

1) A letter of interest that relates your education and experience to the requirements of the position.
2) Curriculum vita
3) The names, addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses of three or more academic/professional references.
4) Graduate and undergraduate transcripts (May be unofficial at this time. Official transcripts will be required when an offer to interview is extended.)
5) Three recent student course evaluations (if available or a note explaining why they are not available).
6) A faculty faith essay. Information is available at www.whitworth.edu/facultyfaithessay.

Please direct questions about the application process to Human Resources to Elise Forman at jobs@whitworth.edu. Please direct questions about the position to the search committee chair, Dr. Randy Michaelis at rmichaelis@whitworth.edu.

ABOUT THE SPOKANE AREA: Spokane (population approx. 210,000) is located on the Spokane River west of the Rocky Mountain foothills in eastern Washington State. The region enjoys four seasons with the associated outdoor activities (mountain biking, climbing, swimming, boating, snowmobiling, skiing, etc.).

Spokane is within 4-5 hours of three major national parks (Mt Rainier, North Cascades, Glacier) and the Canadian Rockies. The city is large enough to have a thriving downtown area with a riverfront park yet small enough to avoid the heavy traffic associated with larger cities. The Spokane area has a number of strong school districts including the Mead School District in which Whitworth is located. Besides the strong public schools, the Spokane area has a number of highly ranked private schools, faith-based schools, and schools that have developed specialized options such as the Mead Riverpoint Academy with its emphasis on STEM and Entrepreneurial curriculum. In summer of 2018, the city provided grants to NGOs to support and promote multicultural events and activities reflecting the different cultural groups in the community. For more information on Spokane, please visit http://www.movetospokane.com/.

Whitworth complies with all federal, state, and local nondiscrimination laws that are applicable to religious nonprofit institutions and does not engage in unlawful discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, or disability. With our commitment to building a diverse community, the university encourages applications from populations underrepresented at Whitworth including members of racial/ethnic communities, women, and persons with disabilities.