

LIW 2016

Breaking it Down and Climbing Back Up: Learning Theories & Approaches to Instruction



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Handout: bit.ly/liw2016-handout

Memorable, Meaningful, Transformative Learning



Write: Think of a time you your learning was memorable, meaningful, or transformative.

What did you learn? How did it happen? Who was involved? What was the environment like?

Memorable, Meaningful, Transformative Learning



Based on your experiences, make a list of the characteristics memorable, meaningful, transformative learning.

Hint - use adjectives and phrases to complete these sentences:

Memorable, meaningful, transformative learning

is: _____.

happens when: _____.

Memorable, Meaningful, Transformative Learning:

Relatable to your lived experiences

Experiential

Connected to your self interests and what is important to you

Can be repackaged and incorporated into your practice in other ways

Changes the way you approach something or think about something

Can't be unlearned

Immersive

Organic and ambiguous

Brings together two universes that I never knew could overlap in any way

Reflective and metacognitive

Affirming

Memorable, Meaningful, Transformative Learning

Motivation & Encouragement

Instructor is engaging

environment is comfortable

interaction & experiential + feedback

LOVE

engaging multiple senses

the learner creates something they didn't think they could

cultural context is included

Relevance - You can make connections to your own experience

Authenticity

Trust

Context - course work is connected to bigger picture

Tools to practice + Time to practice

You see the world in a new way.

your teacher makes time for you as an individual

challenge convention

elevate different kinds of knowledge

Fun! Surprising, novel - but in a happy way - not in a scary way - but can be in a challenging way

the teacher lays out a clear framework but still allows for self-discovery

Humor

3 Key Ideas

Active learning focuses on being **memorable**.

Social constructivism focuses on being **meaningful**.

Critical pedagogy focuses on being **transformative**.

Constructivism

We learn when we build knowledge
with our concepts and experience.

Social Constructivism

(socio-constructivism)

We learn when we *interact with each other* to build knowledge with concepts and experience.

Social Constructivism

(socio-constructivism)

Think



Pair



Share



Quick Reflection

Who had trouble coming up with an example from higher education?

Quick Reflection

Who had trouble coming up with an example from higher education?

What are some of the barriers to memorable, meaningful, and transformative learning in higher education?



Critical Pedagogy

"Habits of thought, reading, writing, and speaking which go beneath surface meaning, first impressions, dominant myths, official pronouncements, traditional clichés, received wisdom, and mere opinions, to understand deep meanings, root causes, social contexts, ideologies, and personal consequences of any action, event, object, process, organization, experience, text, subject matter, policy, mass media, or discourse. (social justice!)"

Adapted from Ira Shor, Empowering Education, 129

Micro-case studies

#1

“I took the students directly to the Psychology LibGuide.”

#3

Student: “I’m writing a paper on financial literacy in higher education.”

Library Staff: “Great!” *Types ‘financial literacy’ and ‘higher education’ into a database.* “Let’s see what we get.”

#2

Student: “I’m not finding anything on my topic, so I’ll just write about something else.”

Library staff: “Good idea, what’s your new topic?”

#4

“Make sure you only use scholarly sources in your papers!”

One More Case Study for reflection and idea sharing after the session

Library staff: “Does everyone have 5 articles on your topic?”

Students: “Yep. We’ve all got 5 articles that support our thesis statements.”

Library staff (thinking) *Hmmm. We’ve still got 30 minutes. What should we do next?*

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