



Personal Learning Theory Paper – Final (50 pts)

What is the Assignment?

- Review your *personal learning theory paper-initial* assignment from the beginning of the semester and update the 1st and 2nd paragraphs if your belief/lesson has changed.
- Add in a 3rd paragraph that connects your learning belief(s) to one of the four fundamental learning theories that we learned in this course.

To Do...

- **3rd paragraph [NEW]** – Describe how your fundamental belief(s) for effective learning from 1st paragraph connects to one of the four fundamental learning theories (behaviorism, information processing theory, constructivism, and social cognitive theory) that you learned in this course.

- **Plan ahead:** You have 2 weeks to complete this assignment (Summer – 2 days)
- **Submission:** Submit to Laulima Assignments by the due date found in the Calendar.
- **Video Instruction:** [Click here if you need instructor to talk you through the assignment](#)
- **Alternative Approaches:** [Click here to read about alternative ways to complete assignments](#)

How is the Assignment Graded?

- An “A” paper will have the following criteria: [Click here for the overall scoring rubric](#)

- Paragraph #3

- ☐ You update paragraphs 1 & 2 if beliefs or lesson have changed
- ☐ You include a 3rd paragraph
- ☐ You identify an appropriate learning theory for your learning beliefs
- ☐ You incorporate learning theory concepts/vocab in description
- ☐ Your description of your learning theory is in-depth (6 sentences or more)

What Does an “A” Assignment Look Like?

PLEASE USE EXAMPLES ONLY AS A GUIDE AND DO NOT COPY DIRECTLY INTO YOUR OWN WORK!

- Example #1 - [Personal Learning Theory Paper – Final \(no comments\)](#)
- Example #1 - [Personal Learning Theory Paper – Final \(with embedded instructor comments\)](#)

Why Are We Doing This Assignment?



- Now that you have completed the semester, your views on effective learning might have changed or expanded. In order to capture that growth in your thinking, this final assignment asks you to connect your beliefs to one of the four fundamental learning theories from this course in order to demonstrate that your own learning beliefs are based on basic principles of learning.
- When you are asked to speak about your learning beliefs during a job interview, it will be quite impressive if you can make connections between your beliefs and a fundamental learning theory. This shows that your teaching is grounded in research-based strategies and that you know what you are doing!!



Extended Assignment Instructions & Comments

Paragraph 1 & 2: UPDATE ANY CHANGES TO YOUR LEARNING BELIEFS

- Take a few minutes and review the first two paragraphs from your *personal learning theory – initial* assignment paper.
 - **1st paragraph [UPDATE]** – Describe how your fundamental belief(s) for effective learning.
 - **2nd paragraph [UPDATE]** – Describe a specific lesson or situation that illustrates what your beliefs might look like in your classroom or profession.
- Does it still make sense to you? Do you still believe what you wrote? Anything to add or change? If you are like most students, you will probably find that your learning beliefs are still very relevant, but that your ideas of them have deepened a bit more. That is a good thing!

Paragraph 3: Describe a specific lesson/situation that illustrates your learning theory(s)

- The most difficult aspect of writing the 3rd paragraph is being able to incorporate the learning theory's concepts and vocabulary and connect it to your learning belief. However, remember you have already done that in your Case Study: Learning Theories Assignment. Use the explanation that you developed in that assignment as your basis for paragraph 3 and then make simple connections to your learning belief.
- For example, if you think that effective learning occurs when students are having fun, you can certainly make a connection between that idea and information processing theory where memory begins when students pay attention to a stimulus. Students having fun, most likely are placing their attention on the learning stimulus which allows processing of information to occur, and then you can start talking about sensory, working, and long-term memory.