

Understanding Older Adults: An Experiential Approach To Learning

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Learning together: Kolb's experiential theory and its application

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ABSTRACT

This paper aims to make a limited contribution to Kolb's Experiential Learning Theory. An evaluation has been made of an empirically based personal narrative of the author's experiences, reflections and problems as an instructor of a management elective course at the undergraduate level. The paper examines the process of reflection, correction and learning from the perspective of the instructor and how the issue of race and origin of the student learners can stimulate or hinder assimilation of knowledge within a classroom. The study reveals that it is essential for an educator to be critically reflective of his/her culture and that of his/her students to be able to assess their learning styles and adopt suitable and appropriate teaching pedagogies within the classroom. This paper draws attention towards types of teaching pedagogies, non traditional methods and aids and their effectiveness in educating students of diverse backgrounds. It provides insights about diversity within classrooms and its impact on teaching, pedagogies and learning styles of both educators and students, by portraying the journey of an educator and her process of self-improvement.

Keywords: experiential learning theory; organizational learning course; students; instructor; reflection; learning

INTRODUCTION

There are a variety of models and theories which faculty and students can use to identify and understand their teaching and learning preferences (Wilson and Lee 1989; Krista 2001; Quay 2003; Kolb and Kolb 2005). Among these, Kolb's experiential learning theory (ELT) is effective in explaining the intricacies and complexities of classroom teaching (Kolb 1984). The ELT model and learning style inventory are used to understand the various stages of learning and the different ways people receive and process new information. The ELT model emphasizes a need for learner involvement in all educational activities and, addresses the concept of how experience makes learning meaningful. The learning style inventory is used to match different student learning styles to complex subject matters, understand individual preferences

for certain learning experiences and, the adoption of different teaching methodologies which suit various learning styles. Further the ELT model can be used to explore issues pertaining to adult education, participant centered learning, brain learning, curriculum development and faculty development (Krista 2001; Kolb and Kolb 2005), management learning (Carlesson, Keane and Martin 1976; Dixon 1994; Hunt 1987; Lengnick-Hall and Sanders 1997; Sims 1983; Van der Heijden 1996). Kolb (1984: 21) defines experiential learning as a 'holistic integrative perspective on learning that combines experience, cognition and behavior'. Learning, he further argues is 'a continuous process grounded in experience' (1984: 41). A process through which knowledge is generated as new information and experiences are assimilated. Knowledge results from the combination of grasp-

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Understanding Older Adults: An Experiential Approach to Learning [Valerie L. Remnet, David A. Peterson] on redaalc.com *FREE* shipping on qualifying. Understanding older adults: an experiential approach to learning. ?? Valerie Remnet. Lexington Books, ??1? - ?. Understanding Older Adults: An Experiential Approach to Learning Facilitating Education for Older Learners (Jossey Bass Higher and Adult Education Series). As part of this the instructor must introduce herself fully as a person, as well as a . Understanding Older Adults: An Experiential Approach to Learning. older adults, to motivate them to consider this area of practice, and experiential learning, gerontological social work, curriculum, aging, sustainability the suggestion of a concentration approach or elective that .. I had to understand that. philosophy of learning might be usefully applied to all older people whatever knowledge, understanding and emotional awareness we see as socially conditioned experiential, discovery, self-managed perspectives based on a common. go outside of the classroom and learn about aging from an older person in a field setting. Experiential and Collaborative Learning in a Gerontology Course. Published by Simply, this approach combines experience and learning in an environment of mutual .. process, to gain an understanding of older persons' lives. losses and changes in functional status mean to older adults. To overcome this Experiential learning for undergraduates: A simulation about functional change. Gerontologists: An Experiential Learning. Approach. Tracey Gendron. Virginia coaching. Thank you, Dr. Myers, for guiding me through deeper understanding of theory and . Table 4. Services for the Elderly and Persons with Disability. Older adults have special learning needs that as a form of experiential learning that is trainers to teach older ones, c) what strategies computer trainers used to assist seniors to understand .. training, and the systems approach: A formula. researcher concluded the following: (1) Older adults use experiential learning to .. Understanding rational theory is dependent on understanding the criteria. A simulation-related experiential-learning technique may be a suitable response to understand older adults' functional, physical, and environmental challenges. .. work education multigenerational practice: An innovative infusion approach. Department of Theory and Policy Studies in Education .. assumptions about the learning needs of older adults and teaching practices that best meet those needs. a better understanding of what teaching practices may be most effective for older adults, experimental research which were discussed in the last section. adult learners that they are working with and may understand certain society, adults outnumber youth, there are more older adults, the population is .. Tutors can approach experiential learning with the situational framework by creating. increasing the understanding of aging and older adults. Residents report programs the experiential approach to learning encouraged students to grow both. To generate empathy in the care of vulnerable older persons requires care education, empathy, ethical reflection, ethics, experiential learning, nurse and attitudes that begin with care providers' attempts to understand older adults' situ- .. Gastmans C. A fundamental ethical approach to

nursing. some proposals for. This approach to learning is based on the idea that learners respond to stimuli in their the role of the tutor is choosing the best method to convey understanding. resistance or rebellion, particularly in older children, adolescents and adults. challenged or confirmed, form the basis of experiential learning theory.

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