What is Experiential Learning?

- I hear and I forget
- I see and I remember
- I do and I understand – Confucius

4 Stages of the Experiential Learning Cycle:

- Action – Anchor students in a common context so they can reflect together
- Reflection and Conceptualization – Teacher helps students identify and name their observations as specific knowledge or skills
- Application – Students apply what they’ve learned to new contexts
Experiential Learning

Basic Requirements:

- Generally inspired by real-world problems
- Frequently requires collaboration
- Represents authentic learning
- Students extract the meaning from the experience.

Experiential Learning

How Do You Start?

- Begin with the end in mind
  
  - What are your goals?
  
  - How does it fit?
- Look for authentic dilemmas
  
  - What real-world situations in which real people struggle with these concepts and skills?
  
  - How can these scenarios be recreated?
- Leave room to accommodate students’ reactions and ideas
- Don’t forget to reflect.

Experiential Learning

Instructor Role

- Less Teacher-Centric role
- Approach the learning experience in a positive, non-dominating way
- Explain the purpose to the students
- Share your feelings
- Make sure you explain how experience connects to what they are supposed to learn
- Provide information and valuable resources
- Allow students to speculate and discover
Experiential Learning

Student Role

- Problems will be practical, social and personal
- Allowed freedom as long as they are learning
- Self-evaluation of success is important
- Students will be open to change
- Students will become less reliant on teacher

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