ANDRAGOGY VS PEDAGOGY:
TEACHING THE ADULT LEARNER
IN AN ONLINE ENVIRONMENT

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QUESTIONS

1. Do adults and children learn differently?
   • What is pedagogy?
   • What is andragogy?

2. What are the implications for the use of pedagogy and/or andragogy in online learning?

3. Does the online instructor maintain the same role as the face-to-face instructor?

4. What is the role of the adult learner?
LEARNING MODELS

PEDAGOGY

ANDRAGOGY
OVERVIEW

- Pedagogy
  - Greek origin meaning: leader of child
  - Art and science of teaching children

- Andragogy
  - Greek origin meaning: leader of adult
  - Art and science of assisting adults to learn
Malcolm Knowles introduced the theory of andragogy to the U.S. circa 1970.

Six main adult learning principles:
- Learner’s need to know
- Self-concept of the learner
- Prior experience of the learner
- Readiness to learn
- Orientation to learning
- Motivation to learn

(Knowles, Holton, & Swanson, 2012, p. 3)
ASSUMPTIONS OF THE PEDAGOGICAL MODEL

Teacher is main decision maker:
- What will be learned
- How it will be learned
- When it will be learned

Learner assumptions:
- Know only what teacher teaches
- Dependent on teacher for learning needs
- Few prior experiences
- Ready to learn only what the teacher decides
- Motivated by external reasons
  - Grades, parental pressures, etc.

- (Knowles et al., 2012, pp. 60-62)
THE ROLE OF THE TEACHER IN PEDAGOGY

- Provides learners with learning objectives.
- Instructs by telling, describing, or demonstrating.
- Provides lots of student practice with feedback.
- Assesses learners to determine if objectives are met.
- Allocates time for learners to do independent practice.

(Chaplin, 2013, p. 65)
The Role of the Facilitator in Andragogy

- Process Manager and Designer
- Assist in relationship building
- Assess needs
- Involve students in planning
- Link learners to resources
- Encourage student initiatives

(Knowles et al., 2012 p. 260)
THE ROLE OF THE LEARNER IN PEDAGOGY

- Obedient
- Follows directions
- Submissive
- Listens to lectures
- Takes notes
- Asks teacher questions
- Expects teacher to answer questions
- Memorizes information
- Takes tests to prove comprehension of new information

(Chapin, 2013)
THE ROLE OF LEARNER IN ANDRAGOGY

- Self-directs the learning process
- Sets own learning objective and goals
- Collaborates with facilitator and group members
- Works independently
- Creates own questions
- Engages in research to answer own questions
- Relies on prior experiences for the acquisition of new information
- Demands relevance in the learning process
- Expects to apply newly acquired information
ONLINE LEARNING

Why do learners choose online learning?

- Access
- Convenience
- Flexibility

(Harris & Martin, 2012)
ANDRAGOGY AND ONLINE LEARNING

- Both:
  - Decrease learner’s dependency on the educator
  - Assist learner to access resources
  - Assist learner to increase responsibility
  - Encourage learner to define learning objectives
  - Use experience as the foundation and motivator for learning
  - Encourage collaboration among other learners
  - Offer a self-reflexive, self-directed, and non-authoritarian environment
  - Facilitate problem posing and problem solving

  (Samaroo et al., 2013, pp. 83-84)
Tips for Teaching Online

- Create an e-learning culture.
- Plan stimulating activities.
- Encourage participation and group interaction.
- Maintain online presence.
- Provide timely feedback.
- Assure relevance in course work.
- Promote problem-solving skills.
Preparing the Adult Learner

- Re-learning to Learn
- Responsibility Awareness
- Share in the Planning
- Identify the Adult Learner Role
  - Self-directed
  - Independent
  - Proactive
  - Logical
  - Problem-solver
  - Inquirer
    - (Knowles et al., 2012)
Conclusion

- Be Mindful of the Theory of Andragogy
- Transition from Instructor-led to Student-led Learning
- Offer Collaborative and Interactive Activities
- Make Material Relevant

(Conrad & Donaldson, 2012; Knowles et al., 2012)
Discussion

- What changes can you make in your role of online instructor?

- What type of online activities can help learners become more self-directed and independent?

- How will you prepare your adult learners for the online experience?
Thank You!

- Thank you for your attention!!!

- Your feedback is very important...please feel free to email me.

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REFERENCES


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