Understanding Elements and Impact of Learning

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CUR/516

March 23, 2015

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Learning at any age will have different ways of actually understanding and retaining the information, and as Benjamin Franklin stated, “Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I learn.”. (Franklin, 1706-1790). The quote holds true for the value and difference of designing content and teaching individuals. The way that everyone learns and teaches will change the world in the next ten years as it has throughout history. The way it is approached depends on these individuals, technology, and how far they are willing to reach and experiment. Instructional design will always be evolving and changing the world.

Trends in instructional design, settings, and different manners will change in the next ten years from how they are advancing so fast, especially in technology. Everything people are doing revolves around technology now, and in learning this is an exponential issue that they will be dealing with forever. Methods are changing in many aspects and teaching, and learning are going to be more focused upon in the future. There will be changes in how often they utilize technology or online classes in ten years. Universities are going to have to adjust to this change in online classes and online Universities to stay current. Online Universities will be used more often than the regular Universities which will affect them tremendously financially. Universities will have to utilize cut backs to be able to afford to stay open. They will have to offer more online classes to accommodate these changes in technology in the future. Technology is taking a lot of jobs and businesses away, and public and private Universities are about to take a dive that they are most likely not ready for right now. In changing over to more online courses, Universities will also have to learn to adapt to a different way of teaching and interacting with students. They will not have the face-to-face interaction that they have right now anymore. They will have to change the way they present themselves and information on computer based courses because, “Due to the isolated nature of online learning, it is of great significance to consider strategies for developing social presence in the online environment.” (Cui, 2013). Students need to feel welcomed, comfortable to engage with the instructor, support, and a more active role when teaching these individuals.

In the next ten years, there will also be more advances in these technologies in online courses. Instructors already in the field will also have to adapt and change. They will have the option of interacting with other instructors globally. Communicating globally will help them learn more about the culture and backgrounds of other ways individuals learn globally. The new information will help with how they will design their class and materials. Privacy will become more important with online classes because as technology advances the privacy might be in jeopardy. The class sizes will be smaller than in a University setting with more teachers, or they will have more students with each teacher. The smaller classes help with the communication and not getting lost among the other students in the learning experience. Communication with the students online is necessary, or they will think their opinion does not matter or was ignored. There could be more in depth instructing online with maybe more videos from the teacher. There could be that everyone has to show up sometimes on a webcam during the week. There will be more options for working with people in group projects that will be helpful because we lack in that department a little. Technology is going to be the key to where they will go in the next ten years, and there will be things people wouldn’t have even imagined.

Academic and professional learning will be more andragogy based learning for the students at least at the college level. There are certain degrees that people need memorization, but in a lot of degrees it is better to learn and be involved in the learning process. The situation goes back to the quote by Benjamin Franklin about being involved. If they are learning on their own and developing their ideas and theories, they will remember more. Andragogy also coincides with experiences in their lives, “In an andragogical environment, learning generally occurs by relating the new information to the learners' lives." (Akin, G., 2014), so this relation to their experiences helps with their learning. You are not just regurgitating something that has already been written like in pedagogy. They are making their ideas and thoughts relating to the topics and information that they were given. Some people are not a fan of papers, but if they knew the information and took an active position in learning themselves it will make a paper a lot easier to type out. Technology will help this idea of andragogy because they will have to think for themselves, like Pablo Picasso stated, “Computers are useless. They can only give you answers”, (Picasso, 1881-1973), and this is true because they cannot think for us. Everyone has their ideas about the things that they learn in courses, and this is how ideas and theories advance, and how the world changes. Staying stuck in the same way of learning throughout life will not help them learn or retain as much information. Knowing more about the concept is better than knowing the specifics that will not matter if they do not understand the concept in the beginning. Pedagogy does not belong in a college setting in most cases, and this will be looked into more in the next ten years. The online universities, like the University of Phoenix, are already paving the way on how this method works better for further education.

Right now, the universities have more of an influence on the instructional design than the instructors do. The world and technology are what is controlling the content of the courses, and that is why they keep adding different classes and degrees. In ten years, there will be classes and degrees that people would have never thought of now. The teachers are left with how they can change things a little, or try to make the design more for their teaching methods. The primary content though is left up to the university, so all of the classes go together and are easy to get used to, so there are no surprises. The world, technology, and universities are already in control of the content that is presented right now. Students are the last thing that influences the class because they will only take what they want to take or have to take. The students are the ones choosing the degrees which will lead to other content and degrees to fade because of the advancements in ten years.

The students and the instructor will be the individuals who are involved in developing the design of adult learning. How well the students do in a course can affect the layout. Changes that the students suggest at the end of the course will influence the design of the course. How a student approaches, an assignment will change the design. It is more up to the adult learner/student to do the work and learn because if they are not taking responsibility for their learning they will not help themselves or the design of the course. The lazy adult learners can be the reason something is changed in the design of the course when it did not need to be replaced. Technology, of course, will play a part in the design and development of the adult learner. There will be many options on how a course is taught technology wise, and we will have to see how much technology plays a part in the design.

In further education, there should be some differences in classes and especially the design of them. When they start with changing our technology and online classes more, there will be changes in this direction also. Instructors will be able to not just go off of the ADDIE model or similar models. The instructors will be able to design, implement and then look at what went right and wrong. Giving the instructors more options on how they would like to create their class will lead to breakthrough theories, ideas, and options on how to instruct a class or online class. Teachers need this at a college level so that they may further their research, and also help students out with a different method that may work for the majority of pupils. The instructors need to be allowed to think outside of the box to also advance our teaching with our technology. Our world does not need to be afraid of dropping or changing some of the older ways of teaching and learning. The older methods will not be as relevant to ten years, and it will not be keeping up with technology and the world.

The future in understanding elements of education will expand with our technology and ideas, and the impact on learning will depend on many aspects including the instructors and students. The world cannot move forward in ten years if we are focused on the past ways of doing things because, “Education is our passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to the people who prepare for it today.” (X, 1925-1965), Malcolm X conveyed, and it is true because education and technology will push everyone into the future, and this depends on the students today. Learning changes every day and people are in a world of lifelong learning within themselves, and in ten years their learning, and lifelong learning will evolve. Everything grows with time.

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