Experiential Learning Theory Bibliography
Volume 2   2006-2010
Prepared by Alice Kolb & David Kolb

The bibliography contains 704 selected references on experiential learning theory from 2006-2010. The references have been selected for their important contributions to Experiential Learning Theory from the nearly 100 thousand citations of ELT on Google Scholar and ResearchGate. The bibliography is in PDF and formatted in APA style. Many research studies listed in the bibliography can be accessed through research databases such as: Web of Science Citation Index, MEDLINE, Education Abstract, Dissertation Abstract, ERIC Document, Google Scholar and others. To review and access current citations of ELT related works go to: http://scholar.google.com/citations?user=MBn_GG4AAAAJ&hl=en. For online access to the bibliography, the Learning Style Inventory and other experiential learning resources go to www.learningfromexperience.com Please send any additions and corrections to dak5@msn.com Revised 6/19.


Ames, M. D. (2006). AACSB International’s advocacy of experiential learning and assurance of learning—Boom or bust for SBI student counseling. USSABE Proceedings*


Summary Individuals typically adopt and prefer one or two learning styles and therefore, by default, remaining learning styles are underutilised. Insight into learning style preferences confers interpersonal benefits to both learners and teachers. Enlightened learners and teachers can identify their dominant learning styles and potentially strengthen under utilised ones. Findings from a retrospective study commissioned by Macmillan Cancer Relief that investigated learning style preferences of 137 female Macmillan Clinical Nurse Specialists
(CNSs) showed that the majority (73.7%) displayed a strong–very strong preference for one or two learning styles. Mean scores across four learning styles were highest for the reflector learning style ($l = 14.85 \pm 3.16$) followed by theorist ($l = 12.2 \pm 2.87$), pragmatist ($l = 11.5 (2.85)$ and activist ($l = 7.95 \pm 3.11$). An understanding of individual learning style preferences, particularly the strengthening of those that are under utilised is said to cultivate both flexible and resourceful learners and effective teachers. Such characteristics would confer considerable benefits within the remit of a Macmillan CNS position.


Baum, J. R. & Bird, B. J. (2010). The Successful Intelligence of High-Growth


*Study tours can help internationalize curricula and prepare students for global workplaces. We examine benefits of tours providing deep-level learning experiences rather than industrial tourism using five main theoretical frameworks to highlight the diverse learning benefits associated with intensive study tours in particular. Relevant theoretical models are Kolb’s Experiential Learning Model, Gregorc’s Style Delineator, Felder-Silverman Index of Learning Styles, VARK Questionnaire, and Dunn and Dunn’s Learning Style Model. Intensive study tours address nearly all the styles and techniques encompassed by these models.*


Kolb’s experiential learning theory has been widely influential in adult learning. The theory and associated instruments continue to be criticized, but rarely is the graphical model itself examined. This is significant because models can aid scientific understanding and progress, as well as theory development and research. Applying accepted modelling and categorization criteria to Kolb’s basic model reveals fundamental graphic syntax errors, a failure to meet modellers’ graphic sufficiency and simplification tests, categorization and definitional problems relating to learning activities and typologies, misconstrued bi-polarities and flawed logic. We propose guidelines for recasting the model with a view to overcoming these weaknesses, guiding future research and theory development, and starting to integrate the disparate field of experiential learning.


Birch, L., Jones, N., Doyle, P. M., Green, P., McLaughlin, A., Champney, C., Williams,


Stagnant student achievement in science education in the United States has placed an increased emphasis on teacher professional development. Since many elementary educators could benefit from improved science content knowledge—and given the
challenge of providing this at a level scalable and sustainable through face-to-face delivery alone—this study sought to understand what types of online self-directed content-interaction strategies are of greatest learner satisfaction and provide the highest learning impact for teachers in grades three – six. Employing Anderson’s Equivalency of Interaction Theorem, and looking at age, years teaching experience, and learning preferences via Kolb and Kolb’s Learning Style Inventory 3.1 (2005), this descriptive study non-randomly sampled 85 educators who passed a series of self-paced interactive web modules to rate their preferences for five different types of content-interactive strategies: (a) simulations, (b) interactive reference, (c) hands-on, (d) personal feedback, and (e) pedagogical implications. Using an online survey and a pre- and postassessment instrument it was found that (a) as age and years teaching experience increase, teachers’ preferences for personal feedback, interactive reference, and simulations increased, (b) teachers’ content knowledge increased significantly after completing the web modules, (c) teachers’ learning style moderately aligned with their preferences for content-interaction strategies, and (d) teachers least preferred the pedagogical implications component. Instructional designers and education administrators selecting professional development for teachers may find this informative. Data from this research support Anderson’s theory that if the content interaction is rich, human interaction may be provided in diminished capacities.


Can, S. (2009). The effects of science student teachers’ academic achievements, their grade levels, gender and type of education they are exposed to on their 4mat learning styles—KLSI (Case of Mugla University, Turkey). World conference on educational Sciences 1(1): 1853-1857


European Conference on Entrepreneurship and Innovation Antwerp Belgium Sept 10-11 674-682.

Casey, A. J. & Goldman, E. F. (2010). Enhancing the ability to think strategically: A learning model Management Learning 41(2) 167–185*


Chan, A. (2010). REFLECTING ON EXPERIENCE FOR LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT. Ph.D. thesis. College of Business Administration University of Nebraska*


Entrepreneurship is a phenomenon that has long history. Due to the financial crisis, the government and the society encourage people to have their own business. However, with high failure rate and extensive entrepreneurship education and investment, to understand how entrepreneurs learn becomes critical to improve the quality of entrepreneurship education and making related policies. Currently, either in China or internationally, entrepreneurial learning is still new, with many questions to explore. For China, with a large population and a heavy burden of employment, it is theoretically and practically important to research on entrepreneur's learning and growth.

This study combined quantitative and qualitative research methods to explore experiential learning and transfer of learning during entrepreneurs' growth. The content included activities undertaken, learning styles in experiential learning, opportunities recognition and exploration, the extent to which people transfer what they had learned, and the influencing factors. This research reviewed past studies about entrepreneurial learning, experiential learning, transfer of learning in organizations, and then used Kolb's learning style inventory and self-developed entrepreneurial transfer of learning questionnaire. 43 entrepreneurs who have established their business over 4 years were investigated. One-way ANOVA and $\chi^2$ were conducted and the results indicated that: (1) entrepreneurs had the lowest score on the dimension of concrete experience; (2) entrepreneurs tended to be accommodator; (3) there was no significant difference between entrepreneurs with different learning style, age, and education, in the perspective of entrepreneurial transfer of learning.

Since the quantitative research provided limited information, a qualitative research followed. The researcher used semi-structure interview on 10 entrepreneurs (6 data of 10 was valid). The qualitative research provided a good compliment to the quantitative research. The results found that: (4) people's entrepreneurial motivation are categorized as need of achievement, desire for fortune, will to meet societal needs, and people usually have a combination of these motivations, but have one of them as the primary one; (5) people's entrepreneurial motivation were influenced by micro social background, micro personal experience, significant others, and individual factors; (6) entrepreneurs' rich experience provided good materials for them to learn from experience, and paved the road to the success; (7) when entrepreneurs meet failure, they adopted strategies of normalizing, turning it to be an opportunity, and learning from it; (8) entrepreneurs actively applied what they learned to work; (9) entrepreneurs preferred problem-driven study, and learning by doing.


Clapper, T. C. (2010). Beyond Knowles: What those conducting simulation need to know about adult learning theory. Clinical simulation in nursing. 6: e7-e14*


The purpose of this review was to provide an overview and analysis of the existing literature on coach learning. In this context, learning embraces all the processes and structures that enable coaches to construct and develop the knowledge required to engage effectively in their professional practice. The review focussed on coach learning, but also explored relevant literature on related topics in the fields of education, health, business and professional learning.


De Swart, S. W. (2010). *A case study of a faculty development program using experiential learning theory to improve college teaching.* Ph., D. Dissertation Department of Organizational Behavior, Case Western Reserve University*


Unpublished BA Honors thesis University of Queensland*


Dweck, C. S. Why Foster a Growth Mindset?. September 2010 | Volume 68 | Number 1 Giving Students Meaningful Work Pages 16-20 Even Geniuses Work Hard *

Let's give students learning tasks that tell them, "You can be as smart as you want to be." We can all agree that meaningful schoolwork promotes students' learning of academic content. But why stop there? I believe that meaningful work can also teach students to love challenges, to enjoy effort, to be resilient, and to value their own improvement. In other words, we can design and present learning tasks in a way that helps students develop a growth mindset, which leads to not just short-term achievement but also long-term success


TYPE INDICATOR AND THE KOLB LEARNING STYLES INVENTORY. 
Unpublished PhD Dissertation Capella University*


Ferrara, Victoria (2009). *Learning style, mode of instructional delivery and learner perception of the classroom environment as predictors of academic success*. Ph. D. Dissertation Capella University School of Psychology*


This paper reviews the literature in a number of areas that converge upon the theme of the role of knowledge within professional identity. Within knowledge transfer literature the individual perspective is underdeveloped, and this paper seeks to contribute by exploring the function of knowledge within an individual's professional identity, thus unfolding a theoretical connection between the literatures of knowledge and identity. Its central argument concurs with Szulanski's notion of 'internal stickiness' as a barrier to knowledge transfer but extends this hypothesis into the psychological ownership of knowledge and to the idea of 'possessiveness'. The paper argues that the value of self-categorized knowledge places the latter within the individual's cognitive structure of their identity. It offers up the idea of valued knowledge to the knowledge transfer domain and suggests that feelings of possessiveness towards knowledge may intervene in the willingness of an individual to disclose knowledge in a knowledge transfer process.


Using recent criticisms and suggestions regarding the multi-level perspective as stepping stones, the article aims to enhance the reflexivity in transition debates regarding social theories. To that end, the article discusses seven social science ontologies (rational choice, evolution theory, structuralism, interpretivism, functionalism, conflict and power struggle, relationism), their assumptions on agency and causal mechanisms, and their views on socio-technical transitions and environmental sustainability. The second goal is to position the multi-level perspective on transitions with regard to these ontologies and to identify directions for theoretical extensions. The MLP is characterized not as a grand or unifying theory, but as a middle range theory that makes crossovers to some ontologies and not to others. (C) 2010 Elsevier B.V. All rights reserved.


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http://aisel.aisnet.org/amcis2009/344


Gencel, I. E. (2006). The effect of instruction based on Kolb’s experiential learning theory on attitude, achievement and retention in social studies. Ph.D. dissertation accepted by the Dokuz Eylül University Institute of Educational Sciences, TURKİYE, ilke.evin@gmail.com*


Graf, S., Llut, T. C. & Kinshuk. (2009). Analysis of learners’ navigational behaviour and
their learning styles in an online course *Journal of Computer Assisted Learning.* 26(2): 116-131


The study addressed instructional strategies and learning styles on a military installation of potential Army instructors. The study proposed that there may be an effect or interaction of effects when introducing different instructional strategies such as videotape and collaborative work groups, while taking into consideration learning style of the potential instructor as measured in performance evaluations and satisfaction ratings. The four research questions were answered by Quantitative methods and statistical analysis. A one-way and two-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) was utilized to address the issues of whether there was some type of significance or main effect in the above variables followed by a discussion of the results and conclusion. Results indicated significant relationships between learning styles, instructional strategies and performance evaluations. The study followed up with recommendations for future research.


Harrington, R. & Loffredo, D. A. (2010). MBTI personality type and other factors that relate to preference for online versus face-to-face instruction. *Internet and Higher Education.* 13:89–95*

Over the past ten years, higher education has seen a dramatic increase in the number of students enrolling in developmental education courses. This increase has been most prevalent in developmental mathematics courses offered at two-year and four-year colleges and universities. In addition, the passing rates for students enrolled in developmental mathematics courses have decreased nationally.

At the same time, there has been a growing call for higher education accountability from state and local governments. Many state governments have implemented performance-based funding in higher education to hold institutions of higher education accountable. The most popular measures of performance-based funding are graduation rates and participation. State and local governments gauge effectiveness of higher education by examining the number of students that graduate and the preparedness of the graduates for their future careers.

As a result of these measures, institutions are beginning to examine the effectiveness of their developmental education programs. College administrators are examining the passing rates of courses along with student success in college-level courses and student persistence toward completing educational goals. Developmental education program directors, departmental chairpersons, and developmental education faculty are examining programs and teaching methods.

If developmental education programs fail to meet the standards of the college administrators, developmental education program directors, and departmental chairpersons, these programs could cut the funding of the programs due to the financial strain that would be put on the institution (Gonzalez, 2009). In the current economy,
institutions of higher education are receiving less money from the state and local
governments. The same state and local governments are requiring the two-year and four-
year colleges and universities to become more efficient and effective in providing
education and preparing more students for their future careers (Gonzalez, 2009; Shannon
& Smith, 2006; Texas Association of Community Colleges, 2006; "Three community

This study has two primary purposes; the first is to add to the existing knowledge
base of research related to the learning styles of students, the sources of the learning
styles, and the influence that learning styles have on student success. The second purpose
is to inform higher education administrators about the individual factors that influence the
relationship between achieving success in developmental education courses and the
learning styles of students.

A quantitative study was conducted to investigate the relationship between
developmental mathematics students’ learning styles and the students’ success in the
developmental mathematics course. Identifying and understanding factors that influence
learning in developmental education environments will provide for a better understanding
of factors that facilitate learning productivity among students with implications for
understanding better teaching strategies that can be used by higher education faculty
members who teach these courses.

Nursing Education.* 49(2): 120-120


learning. *The Coastal Business Journal* Spring 2008; Volume 7, Number 1 66-79*


We investigate the relationship between cultural values and the learning style preferences of students of business administration. By linking Kolb’s (1984) model of learning style preferences to the cultural values of learners we develop hypotheses that are tested against data collected from 939 individuals studying at universities in Germany, the UK, the USA, Russia, Ireland, Spain, the Netherlands, Poland, China, and the United Arab Emirates. Our findings show that learning style preferences vary with individuals’ cultural values. We also find that study level, exchange student status, and gender are related to individuals’ learning style preferences. The results are of importance to researchers and practitioners interested in the learning process of individuals from different cultural backgrounds.


The literature of experiential learning has failed, almost exclusively, to address the perspective of vicarious experiential learning in research schema or conceptual models. We have not found any ABSEL references, for example, that focus on the vicarious dimension as a research perspective or as a fully expressed conceptual framework. Therefore, we ask the question “Why have we neglected vicarious experiential learning?” We address this question by reviewing the genesis of vicarious experiential learning from the literature of modeling and self-efficacy. We develop a model comparing vicarious experiential learning with direct experiential learning. The paper concludes with some explanations of the efficacy of vicarious experiential learning and methodological definitions of the concept.


Huang, L. (2010). Do different modalities of reflection matter? An exploration of adult second-language learners’ reported strategy use and oral language production. *System* 38:245-261*


Hunt, D. E. (2010). *To be a friend: The key to open the flow of friendship in our lives*.


This thesis sought to examine the feasibility of using Likert and Semantic Differential scales as alternative scale formats with the Kolb Learning Style Inventory (LSI) 2005 (v. 3.1). Scaling features were investigated. The Kolb LSI ipsative scores were compared to the Likert and Semantic Differential scales, which unlike ipsative scores, have the potential to produce normative results. Two hypotheses examined whether the Kolb LSI scores are a function of the group and whether learning style scores obtained from the restructured 48-item Likert and Semantic Differential surveys corresponded to those obtained on the Kolb LSI. The sample included post-secondary elementary education, secondary education, and general education students. Construct validity was present between the three scales on the dimensions of learning styles, learning modes, and bi-polar
dimensions. Evidence for a new learning style categorized as “balanced” was observed on results from the Likert and Semantic Differential instruments. The “balanced” learning style falls very close to or on the Kolb axes, rather than within a learning styles quadrant. The results support continued exploration of using different measurement scales that do not produce ipsative scores to measure learning styles, although only 47% of the Kolb learning styles matched the learning styles determined by alternative measures. No evidence was found to support that learning style scores are a function of the group.


Reflection-in-action is often emphasized as a critical ingredient of professional practice, especially in complex and novel situations that call for high situational awareness. Relatively little is known, however, about how organizations can actively foster such a reflective attitude and about the challenges that may be encountered when trying to do so. This article investigates how an anaesthesiology department uses organizational practices to help novice nurses become reflective practitioners. Different practices foster reflection-in-action in different ways, addressing different dimensions of the reflective attitude. The study also provides evidence on factors that are likely to impede this learning process, most notably the mediation by goal conflicts and power relations. Overall, the paper contributes to a deeper understanding of how organizations can go about fostering reflection-in-action.


A study was conducted on the Felder-Soloman Index of Learning Styles © (ILS) to assess reliability, factor structure, and construct validity as well to determine whether changing its dichotomous response scale to a five-option response scale would improve reliability and validity. Data collected in this study had internal consistency reliability ranging from 0.55 to 0.77 across the four learning style scales of the ILS. Factor analysis revealed that multiple factors were present within three of the learning style scales, which correspond to known aspects of the scale definitions. The factor analysis and direct feedback from students on whether they felt their scores accurately represented their learning preferences provide evidence of construct validity for the ILS. Changing the response scale improved reliability, but it did not change the factor structure substantially nor did it affect the strength of the evidence for construct validity based on student feedback.


between museums and cemeteries. Sociologica lResearch Online. 13(5)


The importance of experiential knowledge for small firm internationalization has been emphasized in the process model of internationalization, the international new venture or born-global frameworks and the management characteristics perspective in the exporting literature. However, none examines in detail under what conditions experiential learning is more important for internationalization. We borrow insights from the socialization tactics literature to theorize how the context, content and social aspects of a foreign sojourn offer different opportunities for the acquisition of experiential knowledge to support the internationalization of small firms. We suggest that socialization tactics moderate the relationship between individual international experiential knowledge and small firm internationalization. We propose that the opportunities for international experiential learning are superior when the socialization context is individual and formal (rather than collective and non-formal), the socialization content is sequential and fixed (rather than random and variable) and when socialization involves serial and investiture (rather than disjunctive and divestiture) social aspects.


Minihan, B. (2009). EVALUATION OF LEARNING STYLES AMONG UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS, AMHERST COMPLETING SELECTED ONLINE AND TRADITIONAL COURSES. MS thesis. Graduate School of the University of Massachusetts Amherst.*

Mitchell, R. et. al. (2009). A New Measure of the Cognitive, Metacognitive, and Experiential Aspects of Residents’ Learning Academic Medicine. 84(7): 918-926*


Neden, J. (2007). Assessment and reflexivity in family therapy training. 29:373-377*


Entrepreneurial Learning ATEA Journal 37(1): 16-22*


Outdoor and adventure education has been shown to result in positive psychological outcomes. This paper connects positive psychology—specifically, strengths-based education—to important outcomes in outdoor and adventure education. Strengths-based education encourages participants to intentionally use their talents to achieve success in the environment in which they are placed. In this paper, we explain why, when, and how to use a strengths-based approach in outdoor and adventure education. An illustrative example of a strengths-based approach to an international adventure education course will be discussed. Quantitative and qualitative data demonstrate that this strengths-based educational program was effective in helping students achieve positive outcomes related to personal growth. This paper will conclude by offering directions for practice and future research.


Pehlivan, B. (2010). A Study On Prospective Teachers’ Learning Styles and Their Attitudes Toward Teaching Profession. *Elementary Education Online,* 9(2), 749-763*

**ABSTRACT:** Learning styles of prospective teachers, their attitudes towards teaching profession and whether there is a difference in their attitudes according to their learning style were tried to be examined. Study group composed by total 306 (163 female and 143 male) prospective teachers who are studying their first year in Muğla University. Descriptive method used in this study. According to research findings, prospective teachers predominantly prefer accommodating and diverging learning styles. Learning styles prospective teachers do not show differences depending their disciplines or study fields. Attitudes of prospective teachers towards teaching profession have been found considerably high (mean= 135.22). According to findings of the study, the average points of attitude scale are showed that there is no significant difference depending fields of study and learning styles while there is a positive difference for girls. Besides, it is found that there is a difference between the average points of attitude scale of prospective teachers in the department social science and science.

Perantoni, E. J. (2010). Course Design Based on the Kolb Learning Style as it Relates to Student Success in Online Classes. Ed.D. Dissertation Lindenwood University School of Education.*


AND POLICY. *College Teaching.* 56(4): 237-245*


**ABSTRACT** In both education and training an important aspect of the design, development and delivery of learning is the role of individual differences between learners in terms of their ‘learning styles’. One may identify four broad categories of what have been termed ‘learning style’: (i) ‘cognitive personality elements’ (e.g. Witkin et al. 1977; Riding, 1991); (ii) ‘information-processing style’ (e.g. Kolb, 1984; Honey & Mumford, 1992); (iii) ‘approaches to studying’ (e.g. Entwistle & Tait, 1994); (iv) ‘instructional preferences’ (e.g. Riechmann & Grasha, 1974). A study of 245 university undergraduates in business studies aimed to: (i) describe the range of individual differences present within the sample; (ii) investigate the relationship between learners’ cognitive styles, learning styles, approaches to studying and learning preferences; (iii) consider the implications of ‘learning style’ for teaching and learning in higher education. The present study suggested some overlap between the dimensions measured by the Learning Styles Questionnaire (Honey & Mumford, 1986; 1992) and the Revised Approaches to Studying Inventory (Entwistle & Tait, 1994). No statistically significant correlations were found between cognitive style, as measured by the Cognitive Styles Analysis (Riding, 1991) and any of the other ‘style’ constructs used. Further research is required to investigate these relationships, as is a large-scale factor analytical study of the Honey and Mumford and Kolb instruments. The notions of whole brain functioning, integrative approaches to studying and degree of learning activity are discussed.


Communities of Practice (CoPs) have become a widely used method to enhance knowledge management, knowledge transfer, innovation and learning in large, complex organizations. Since first introduced by Jean Lave and Etienne Wenger in their 1991 book, *Situated Learning: Legitimate Peripheral Participation*, the concept has been widely discussed in the private, public and educational sectors. Much of the literature has focused on either the abstract, theoretical underpinnings or the structural elements of CoPs with little attention paid to the actual experience of individual participants in CoPs - in effect reflecting the perspectives of the architects and builders of a home but not the occupants. This Grounded Theory study uses a combination of both Situational and Dimensional Analysis to explicate the experience of the participants in a number of CoPs functioning in the British Columbia Public Service. The intent is to offer a deeper understanding of the internal dynamics within CoPs for those interested in facilitating successful CoPs. The British Columbia Public Service (BCPS) is a large, knowledge-based organization delivering a wide variety of programs and services across a large, economically and culturally diverse, jurisdiction. The challenges faced by the BCPS are similar to those faced by other knowledge-based organizations. The use of CoPs is widespread in the BCPS displaying a range of structure from highly formalized to relatively informal. This research, based on 21 unstructured interviews and supported by other documentation, presents a model that helps to clarify both the relationship between CoPs and other organizational sub-groups as well as capturing the dynamic, member-driven nature of CoPs. It is anticipated that individuals interested in CoPs will find this modeling


Lea thinking has evolved as an operational strategy over the past few decades and is integral to the fabric of many leading organizations. Within lean organizations, the pursuit of identifying and eliminating non-value-added activities and processes from the value stream is achieved through self-directed teams commonly called kaizen teams. This conceptual article introduces lean thinking, including a brief overview of lean origins, guiding principles for kaizen events and associated teams, and their location within team-building research and literature. Four just-in-time team-building learning modules for kaizen events are presented with appropriate resources for additional research of relevant theories.


Strikwerda, R. (2007). "Experiential Learning and City as Text©: Reflections on Kolb and Kolb" Journal of the National Collegiate Honors Council --Online Archive. 30. http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/nchcjournal/30 * Experiential learning is a staple of all that the NCHC Honors Semesters Committee does (Braid 1990), whether it is the Semesters themselves, the City as Text explorations at NCHC conferences, or NCHC Faculty Institutes. The ancient Greek followers of Aristotle were called the Peripatetics, apparently because their teacher taught philosophy as they walked under the peripatos ("covered walk") of the Lyceum, an area just outside of Athens. As a graduate student I thought this had to be a rather inefficient way of teaching, conjuring as it did an image of students jostling to get close to the teacher, some rushing to keep pace while asking questions or taking notes and others distracted by a bird flying
overhead. City as Text© (CAT) has made me rethink the facile assumptions behind that image. Maybe walking around in a particular place is an especially appropriate way of learning.

I am a philosopher by training, and “experiential learning” is not a term I would have used when I began as a college teacher to describe my approach to teaching. I have taught what philosophers say about experience—but only in a rather abstract way. We have not philosophized about what we have experienced together. But I do like to walk around cities, and a number of years ago I participated in my first City-as-Text exploration as part of a National Collegiate Honors Council conference. What I chose then as simply a pleasant way to spend an afternoon has led to a very enriching professional and personal journey. CAT has been not simply another good teaching method but an opportunity to reconsider all of my teaching.


Sun, K., Lim, Y. & Yu, C. (2008). A study on learning effect on different learning styles in a web-based lab of science for elementary school students. *Computers and Education.* 50:1411-1422*


Warren K., Mitten, D. & Loeffler, T. A. (2008). *Theory and Practice of Experiential...
Education. Boulder, Co: Association for Experiential Education


Wassif, E. & McKay, S. (2010?). The way we learn in family medicine. Unpublished paper Department of Family medicine, University of Western Ontario.*


West, E. J. (2010). Differences between learning styles and satisfaction between traditional face-to-face and online web-based sport management studies students. Ed.D. Thesis College of human resources and education West Virginia University.*
Each student has a unique learning style or individual way of perceiving, interacting, and responding to a learning environment. The purpose of this study was to identify and compare the prevalence of learning styles among undergraduate Sport Management Studies (SMS) students at California University of Pennsylvania (Cal U). Learning style prevalence was determined for traditional face-to-face students and online web-based students and differences in learning style prevalence between these two groups were explored. Finally, differences in student satisfaction between program delivery methods were examined by using an online questionnaire designed by the researcher.

The population for this study included 247 Cal U undergraduate SMS students enrolled in the fall 2009 semester. Through an online survey 101 face-to-face students and 146 on-line students were identified into one of four learning style groups (Accommodators, Divergers, Assimilators, and Convergers) utilizing Kolb’s Learning Style Inventory 3.1 (2005).

The data from the study were analyzed and yielded a trend toward significance for learning style preference by delivery method. The comparison of the four learning styles for the face-to-face participants indicated a statistically significant difference. The comparison of the four learning styles for the on-line participants indicated a statistically significant difference. The follow-up analysis consisted of comparison of each of the four learning styles separately by delivery method (face-to-face and on-line) yielded no statistical significant difference.

Four satisfaction questions were found to have statistical significance in ratings between face-to-face and on-line students. On-line respondents were significantly more satisfied with the challenge and demand of Sport Management Studies courses, significantly more satisfied with the Sport Management Studies major setting high expectations for student performance, significantly more satisfied with the program finding connections between what students are learning in the classroom, relating it to their past experiences, and applying it to their daily lives, and significantly more satisfied with the quality of their academic experience within the program when compared to the face-to-face respondents.

The results of this study can help educators and academic administrators better understand the needs of their students and better develop or structure teaching methods in both on-campus and web-based instruction. Colleges and universities will need to implement changes to meet the advancement of the technological revolution at hand. As educators (virtual and live) are faced with an increasingly diverse population of learners with a wide range of expectations, there is a need to continually seek to understand what factors constitute excellent delivery to promote effective learning. By recognizing different learning styles, educators may better engage students, work in conjunction with their universities to meet demands of the growing distance education and on-line learning populations, increase levels of student satisfaction, ensure a greater program “fit” with students, individualize and capitalize learning opportunities in the classroom, and seek to employ different pedagogical approaches to better facilitate learning.


Wu, S. (2006). AN INDIVIDUAL DIFFERENCES LEARNING MODEL (IDL) FOR ASYNCHRONOUS DISTRIBUTED LEARNING (ADL) PREFERENCES: GENDER, CULTURAL BACKGROUNDS, LEARNING STYLES, AND ATTITUDES TOWARD COLLABORATIVE LEARNING. Ph. D. Dissertation in communication Sciences, University of Hawaii*


Zacharis, N. (2010) The Impact of Learning Styles on Student Achievement in a Web-Based versus an Equivalent Face-to-Face Course *College student journal.* This study investigated the relationship between students' learning styles and their achievement in two different learning environments: online instruction and traditional instruction. The results indicated that a) students in the traditional learning group had higher, but not statistically significant higher, levels of achievement than students in the online learning group, b) a student's learning style had no statistically significant effect on their course grades in any of the two instructional methods, and c) there was no significant interaction between the learning style and instructional method.


