

Learning Styles and Motivation

Caren M. Stalburg, MD MA

Clinical Assistant Professor

Obstetrics and Gynecology and Medical Education



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Intended Learning Outcomes

- Understand the tendencies and preferences of adult learners
- Recognize the variety of learning styles used by individuals
- Consider how motivation affects learning

Epistemology

- Individual belief about knowledge and knowing
 - How knowledge is ‘constructed’
 - Where knowledge ‘resides’
 - How knowledge is evaluated
- Your view influences your choice of teaching and assessment methods.

Optional reference: Hofer and Pintrich, The Development of Epistemological Theories
<http://rer.sagepub.com/content/67/1/88.full.pdf>



[matthewreid](#)

What do you believe about teaching?

<http://ctl810.wikispaces.com/file/view/paei.tex.pdf>

Epistemology

Behaviorist



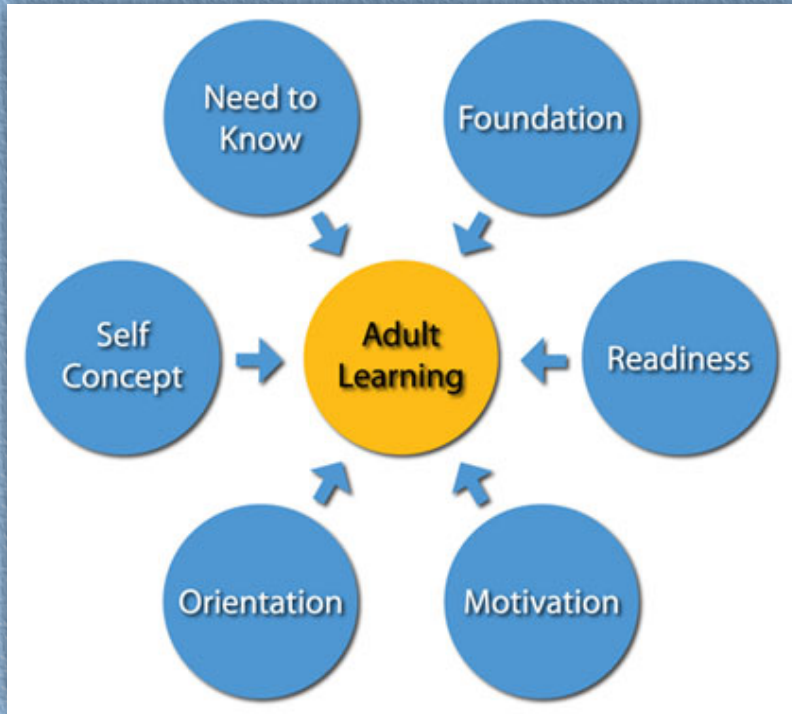
 Tom Woodward

Constructivist



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Adult Learners



- Learner's need to know
- Self-concept of learner
- Prior experience/foundation
- Readiness to learn
- Orientation to learning
- Motivation to learn
 - » Knowles

Application of Adult Learning Principles

1. Need to know results of their efforts and desire feedback
2. Prefer to be self-directed and autonomous learners
3. Prior experience is used as a resource and provides existing mental models
4. Ready to learn when experiencing the need to solve real-life problems
5. Prefer problem centered and contextual challenges
6. Motivated by intrinsic value and personal payoff

Learning Styles???



Rob Boudon

Kolb's Learning Styles

Accommodators

Concrete experience
Active experimentation

Divergers

Concrete experience
Reflective observation

Convergers

Abstract concepts
Active experimentation

Assimilators

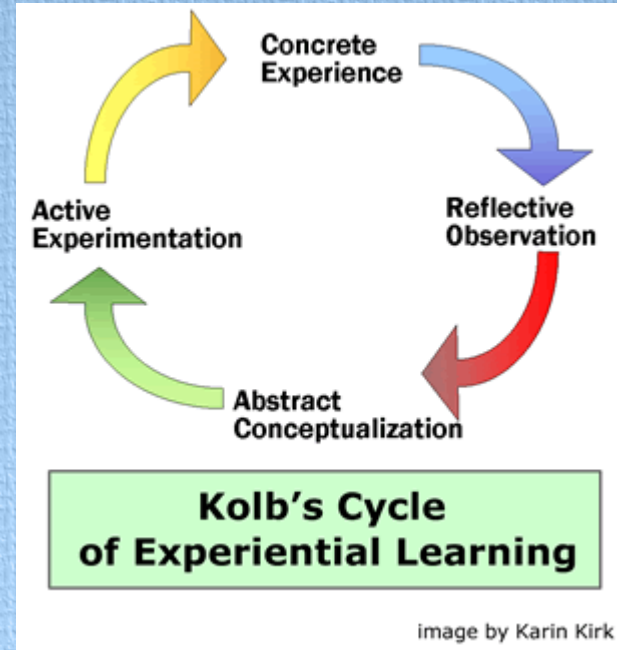
Abstract concepts
Reflective observation

Experiential Learning



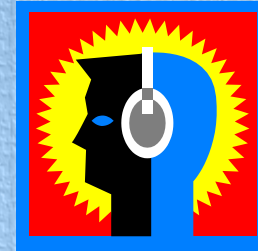
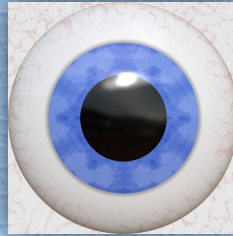
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Alex Kerney



VARK

- *Visual*
- *Auditory*
- *Read/Write*
- *Kinesthetic*



VARK by Fleming, N.D. and Mills, C. (1992), Not Another Inventory, Rather a Catalyst for Reflection, *To Improve the Academy*, Vol. 11, 1992., page 137.

Motivation and Learning

- Intrinsic
 - Why might learners want to learn?
- Extrinsic
 - What makes learners study and learn?

Mann, K V. Motivation in medical education: how theory can inform our practice. Academic Medicine. 1999. 74(3):237-9.