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DMET 520

Learning Philosophy

In today's world, each person learns information differently. Learning is no longer a one-size-fits-all model but now occurs often with a blend of different styles, techniques, and tools (Kolb & Kolb, 2005). To effectively support each student's different learning style while also maximizing their potential, educators must adopt an instructional approach that encourages an inclusive learning environment by utilizing technology and incorporating a variety of teaching methods. Justin Trudeau, who worked as a teacher for several years before changing careers, stated, "A good teacher isn't someone who gives the answers out to their kids but is understanding of needs and challenges and gives tools to help other people succeed" (Trudeau, n.d.). As Trudeau stated, it is so important as educators to provide a blend of a learner-centered and teacher-centered environment to maximize each learner's potential.

In an ideal classroom, content would be presented to the learners in a variety of ways by *inclusive educational strategies and with the utilization of technology*. The utilization of technology within the classroom expands the availability of content for the learners. It allows learners to have access to information that may not have been previously available to them. The use of technology also encourages learners to collaborate and seek out information (Klašnja-Milićević, Vesin, Ivanović & Budimac, 2011). It allows learners the ability to practice challenging content and provides the educator the ability to track the learners understanding of the content (Ross & Lukow, 2004). One form of technology that helps with this is Kahoot!. Kahoot! Is a technology that makes learning and practicing more challenging content more enjoyable through interactive games. In these games, the educator can create questions for the learners to answer to test their knowledge of specific content (Wang & Tahir, 2020). Looking back at my own educational experience, it would have been much more enjoyable to take a quiz on an interactive platform instead of using pencil and paper. I had found that taking these paper quizzes was more stressful than having an animated digital version. The use of platforms such as Kahoot! It would also reduce the time

needed for the educators to grade these quizzes by seeing the results within the website and making any necessary adjustments.

A second form of technology that would work well in a classroom setting would be the use of digital whiteboards such as Miro. Miro would be a useful tool that educators and learners would be able to utilize to present content and encourage collaborative learning activities (Allah, 2023). Miro could be used to enhance student engagement for group work. This tool could be utilized for brainstorming a topic for a project, either together in a classroom or remotely. It would also work well as a tool for the initial phases of an assignment when a learner may need to create a mind map. This tool could also be used to develop multimedia presentations.

An ideal classroom would allow the educator to present content to learners in a variety of ways to help students reach their highest potential. Utilizing multiple ways to present content to learners would give them the opportunity to get a better understanding of the information. It would reach a variety of types of learners (Telli, Den & Cakiroglu, 2008). It is important to show learners how there are a variety of ways to learn content and to reach a better understanding of it (Jobirovna, 2023). It is also important to show learners how they can expand their knowledge of a topic using technology. In an ideal classroom, an educator would present the information but would then use supporting tools to allow the learners to become involved with the learning process, with the use of group activities or interactive activities. Learners need to develop these foundational skills in their education because they will be necessary for their success beyond their education (Tunca, Sahin, Aytunga & Guner, 2015). It is important for a learner to have the ability to adapt and to collaborate with others. It is also necessary for the learner to have the knowledge of how to locate information to achieve a better understanding of it independently. Educators need to ensure that a learner has the knowledge about a specific concept, but it is more important for the educator to provide the tools for the learner to have success beyond that one specific lesson.

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