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Beyond Powerpoint: Innovative Ways to Engage Counselors-in-Training

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BEYOND POWERPOINT: INNOVATIVE WAYS TO ENGAGE COUNSELORS-IN-TRAINING

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Teaching Principles Based on Current Research (& Experience)

Characteristics of effective college/university teachers

- Are good learners who seek feedback and reflection to make positive changes to enhance student learning
- Focus on student learning, not just their own performance in class
- Develop clear learning goals and objectives to help create effective learning environments
- Understand that learning is facilitated by a well organized course and class session
- Focus on students *doing* rather than just knowing
- Have a highly compelling story to tell about their discipline
- Use the skills of their discipline to teach their discipline
- Model that failure and struggle is an integral part of learning and is not to be feared
- Have high expectations for students, but choose objectives and activities that students see as relevant and important
- Are open and enthusiastic and curious about their field (and about life)
- Build ongoing and immediate teacher-to-student and student-to-student feedback into the course
- Use both formative and summative assessments and view grades as a way to communicate rather than as a tool to rank and judge
- Find a way to assess prior knowledge
- Use teaching strategies such as case studies and problem-based learning to stimulate higher-order thinking

Suggestions for engaging millennial learners

- Incorporate a multimedia approach—but use technology to enhance, not replace, good teaching practices
- Create a less formal learning environment
- Make your teaching relevant to the lives of your students
- Strive to create personalized and customized assignments
- Develop collaborative course assignments
- Employ high-interest attention grabbers to begin class
- Use the Rule of 10—change what you do in class every 10 minutes
- Encourage deeper processing by embedding important concepts personal stories, movie clips, etc.
- To address millennials' tendency to multitask, discuss the myth of multitasking:
<https://davecrenshaw.com/the-myth-of-multitasking-uncut-presentation/>
- Use the five R's:
 - **Research**-based methods
 - **Relevance**
 - **Rationale**
 - Be **relaxed**
 - Build **rapport**

Keeping courses fun/interesting, while still meeting objectives

“I hear and I forget. I see and I remember. I do and I understand.”
(Confucius, n.d.)

- Experiential Learning (Kolb, 1984)
- **Active Learning Techniques** (Bonwell & Eison, 1991)
 - Ice breakers
 - Think/Pair/Share
 - One minute paper/free write
 - Scenarios/Case Studies
 - Roundtable

Characteristics to embody (Jenkins, 2105):

- **Personality** - good natured, approachable, funny, don't take self or content too seriously
- **Presence** – fully in the moment, connecting to course material and to students
- **Preparation** – meticulously prepare long-term, medium-term, and short-term
- **Passion** – love for your students and love for your content

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For pdf copies of a variety of teaching-related articles and reports, go to:

<https://goo.gl/oAJ8wR>

And feel free to add your own resources!