



Why-Lighting

As you read, consider what main points or pieces of information are important to you and your understanding of student-centered learning. Highlight those sections. For the sections that you highlight, add comments explaining why you did so.



STUDENT-CENTERED LEARNING

“Tell me and I forget. Show me and I remember. Involve me and I understand.” —Chinese proverb

Student-centered learning focuses on shared control of learning environments. Students are actively engaged in multiple aspects of their learning that have traditionally fallen under the teacher’s role (Newmann et al., 1995). In learning environments like these, students’ voices and choices are central to their learning experiences. Assessments, formative or summative, can increase student-centered learning when students have the opportunity to choose how to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of complex concepts. Additionally, students reflect on their learning and evaluate their own and others’ solutions or ideas (Newmann et al., 2007).

School cultures and classroom environments should be considered when creating student-centered learning experiences. According to some scholars, teachers play a critical role in successful implementation of authentic classroom practices (Boaler, 2016; Darling-Hammond, 2000; Dennis & O’Hair, 2010; Sanders & Rivers, 1996). Teachers’ relationships both with students and with their content areas contribute to fostering learning environments where students can construct meaning for themselves and teachers guide students in inquiry-based learning and connecting learning outside of classroom settings. Because of the importance placed on relationships, respect, and classroom culture, authentic teaching and learning should not be separated from these factors.

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