

# Moving to Best Practice with Today's Students; A Collaborative Learning Approach

Dr. Mark Taylor  
[www.taylorprograms.com](http://www.taylorprograms.com)

This handout is provided as a courtesy to attendees at my program at the University of Alabama at Huntsville on August 8, 2018. Special thanks to Dr. Carolyn Sander and Provost Christine Curtis for inviting me and facilitating my visit.

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## Generation NeXt: Today's Postmodern Student—Meeting, Teaching, and Serving

Mark L. Taylor

### Introduction

Generation NeXt, the current cohort of traditionally aged college students, brings educational and social characteristics to campus that are challenging educators. The product of a very different social reality than the members of the generational cohort who predominate in college faculties and staff, their postmodern sensibilities and consumer approach to education may be a remarkably poor fit with what schools traditionally offer (Cusick 1996). This presentation overviews the characteristics of Generation NeXt and presents suggestions for helping its members be successful in postsecondary education.

## Meet the Students: Finding Common Ground between Student and Institutional Goals

Mark Taylor

There are gaps between the traits, expectations, and desired outcomes from their college experience for traditional-aged students from Generation NeXt, and what higher education institutions hope for the academic of these same students to be. These differences in perspective and goals affect student and institutional positions for closing the gap for improved student and institutional outcomes will be offered.

## Generation NeXt Goes to Work: Issues in Workplace Readiness and Performance

Mark Taylor

Many traditionally aged graduates from Generation NeXt are having significant difficulty in successfully transitioning from college to the workplace and in adapting to the expectations of the workplace (Kearnes and Shirley 2006; Taylor 2008a). Many schools have slowly recognized the significance and magnitude of this epidemic of work-life unreadiness so are not making the necessary institutional, programmatic, and instructional changes necessary to improve the work-related abilities of their graduates (Levine 2008b).

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Teaching Generation NeXt: A Pedagogy for Today's Learners

Mark Taylor

Faculty struggle to effectively teach our traditionally aged students from Generation NeXt. They are different in anyone higher education has experienced in the past, and the mismatch between faculty and students in teaching and learning students' academic preparation and expectations, consumerism, and use of technology are challenging traditional educational methods. "Old school" methods, especially the all too common lecture, are less and less successful in bringing students to appropriate levels of learning. This book provides an overview of specific techniques for improving instruction and student learning when operationalizing the model introduced in "Teaching Generation NeXt: A Pedagogy for Today's Learners" (Taylor 2010).

Teaching Generation NeXt: Methods and Techniques for Today's Learners

Mark Taylor

Faculty struggle to effectively teach traditionally aged students from Generation NeXt. Their academic preparation and expectations, consumer orientation, esteem and importance issues, and use of technology are challenging traditional educational practices (Coates 2007; Hersch and Morrow 2005; Schroeder 2004; Taylor 2005, 2006, 2010; Twenge 2006; Prensky 2001a, 2001b; Tapscott 2009). While old-school methods, especially the all too common lecture on content to passive learners, are proving less and less successful in bringing students to successful learning and developmental outcomes, pedagogies of activity and engagement, especially those that use recently available Web- and technology-based tools and resources, can be more effective but are not attaining significant levels of use in most schools. Many faculty who are interested in meaningful student learning understand why they need to move from the traditional academic delivery model to a best practices model based on increasing student responsibility, engagement, and activity that leverages newly available online and technology-based resources, but they may not know what to do (Barr and Tagg 1995; Blö 2006; Gardner 1998; Tagg 2004; Taylor 2010 U.S. Department of Education 2006). This paper provides an overview of specific techniques for improving instruction and student learning when operationalizing the model introduced in "Teaching Generation NeXt: A Pedagogy for Today's Learners" (Taylor 2010).

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A MANAGEABLE REVOLUTION:

# FLIPPING

the Faculty from the Lecture Model to Research-Based Instruction DR. MARK TAYLOR

Faculty members continue to struggle to effectively teach traditionally aged students, who bring very different traits and experiences to higher education (Taylor 2010, 2011). Their issues with academic preparation and expectations, responsibility, esteem and importance concerns, and their use of and dependence on technology are challenging traditional higher education instructional practices (Prensky 2001a, 2001b; Taylor 2005, 2006, 2007, 2010; Twenge 2006). Learning outcomes and workplace readiness issues have come under increased scrutiny and criticism as the public questions the effectiveness of higher education practices and outcomes when addressing this generation's learning experiences (Arum and Baksa, 2011; Hersch and Morrow, 2005; Blö, 2006). Real and perceived problems can be traced to a very simple cause: the people hired as instructors may not be adequately trained to teach. We employ subject-matter experts, research scientists, and practitioners and then assign them the responsibility of bringing students to particular learning outcomes, a job for which they have not been prepared.

Faculty development around teaching skills is uneven at best, and frequently made available only to those who ask for it. At research colleges and universities, this is complicated by the fact that teaching is often not perceived as the most important part of a faculty member's job. As has long been the tradition, research, grant writing, managing graduate programs, committee involvement, various community and social involvements, and administration may have a greater impact on remuneration, job security, promotion, and tenure than actually teaching, much less developing the skills necessary to effectively teach or to measure student learning outcomes.

So what do subject-matter experts with little or no training on methods of effective college teaching do? They teach the way they were taught, lecturing on the content to passive students instead of applying the data on best practices on bringing students to meaningful, lasting learning outcomes (Barratt, 2010; Weimer, 2002). Anyone who doubts that the lecture model is pervasive need only observe a sample of classes in session at most schools.

A reliance on lecture is the epitome of what seminal writers like Gagne (1964, 1984) and Barr and Tagg (1990) criticized as the teaching model, where colleges are seen to exist to provide instruction. Colleges and universities should exist to bring about learning in students. This article is intended to help academic administrators move faculty from the traditional, lecture-based teaching model (hereafter referred to as the lecture model) to an active, learning and learner-centered best-practices model (hereafter referred to as a research-based instructional). A succinct summation of the wealth of evidence from learning outcomes research, neuroscience, and cognitive psychology that forms the foundation of research-based instruction is that the one who does the work does the learning (Dwyer, 2011; Leamonson, 1999; Zull, 2002). Most simply, the job of instructors is not to do the work themselves (lecture) but to plan and direct the work of students.

The reasons for moving from the lecture model to research-based instruction – primarily improved learning outcomes – and the corresponding methods are not secret and have been explained and promoted by many scholars, including Arthur Chickering and Zalta Cannon (1987), Terry O'Hanlon (1999), Lee Fink (2003), Terry Doyle (2008, 2011), and Linda Nilson (2010) and in the ongoing work of Maryellen Weimer (2002) and Eric Mazur (1997).

One practical and readily accessible application of research-based instruction in the flipped classroom. It is generally attributed to Harvard physics professor Eric Mazur, who is also its most public face and advocate through his model of Peer Instruction (Barratt, 2010; Mazur, 1997). In the flipped classroom students are required to prepare for each class meeting, generally at the content level. Student preparation for each class meeting is expected and assessed, and is a prerequisite for full participation in the class session. During class time, students engage in a variety of instructional activities with faculty facilitation. These activities solidify remembering the content for fluent recall and help learners reach higher order cognitive and skills-based outcomes. While there are many active learning techniques that promote student engagement, there have been common that the instructor is coordinating students during the work of their own learning, as opposed to simply lecturing on content.

Besides improving learning outcomes, the processes of the flipped classroom can increase workplace readiness, as course mechanisms are more aligned with workplace expectations than are the processes and expectations of classes based on the lecture model. The requirement that students come to class on time and be prepared helps them develop the responsibility necessary to meet similar expectations in the workplace, as well as helping students acquire basic workplace habits like timeliness and productivity. The active learning format helps students develop communication, cooperation, and interaction skills, also valued in the workplace. As classes move more fully to these best practices, overall workplace readiness and the satisfaction of employers with graduates may increase. It might also be noted that students who are more engaged for students – and student engagement increases student persistence (Dwyer, 2011; Schiele, and Weimer, 2011; Kuh, Kinsie, Schuh, and Whitt, 2010).

Readers who want more information on the applications of research-based instruction are encouraged to review Teaching Generation NeXt, which describes a model especially appropriate for the current cohort of digitally engaged students, briefly described below (Taylor 2010, 2011, 2012).

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3 This chapter addresses issues faculty should consider when exploring the possible use of social media in instruction with today's learners.

## Leveraging Social Media for Instructional Goals: Status, Possibilities, and Concerns

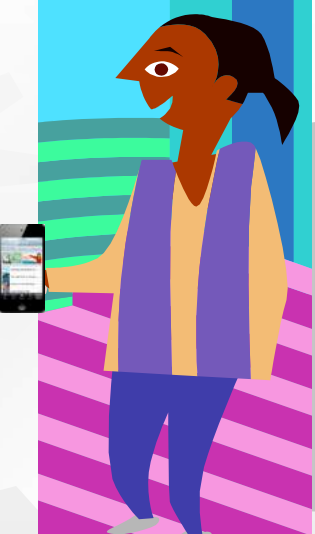
Mark Taylor

Web-based tools including information access, communications, utility programs, and applications (apps) have transformed the lives of most people today, including instructors and students in higher education. Although much of the content is of questionable quality and some of the interaction is negative, web-based tools have generally benefited postmodern life and higher education. Collaborative read/write tools including social media (SM), also referred to as Web 2.0, have had especially strong impacts on students' daily and academic lives. With the ubiquity of social media use, especially by students, many faculty are considering if, and how, they may use those platforms as tools in instruction. Can sites like Facebook, Twitter, Tumblr, and Instagram fit into constructivist-informed teaching and help instructors help their students reach learning outcomes? What should faculty consider when deciding whether or not, and how, to engage with their students on SM sites for instruction? This chapter addresses issues in leveraging SM for instructional purposes.

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# Today at UAH

- What is the deal with today's students?
  - Gen NeXt to Gen WOKE
- How are we doing with them?
- Can we improve instruction for better outcomes?
  - Learning
    - To think/ reason well
  - Persistence
  - Engagement through graduation
  - Workplace readiness
    - "New" workplace expectations
    - "Soft skills"
- An invitation research informed instruction
  - Not pandering
  - "Best practices".



## Meeting Generation NeXt: Today's Postmodern College Student

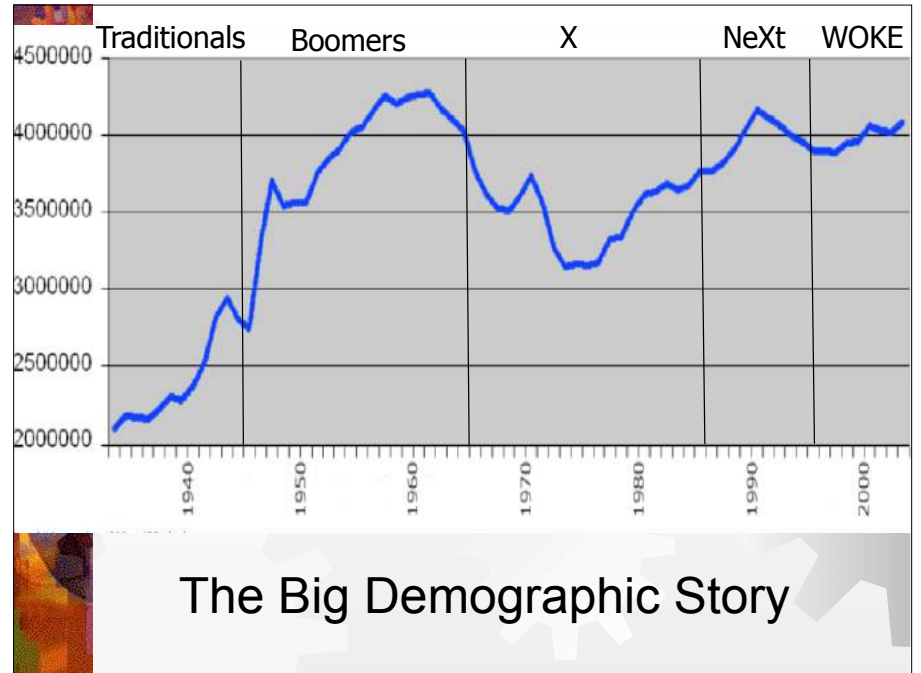
Mark L. Taylor

### Introduction

The traditionally aged college student, generation NeXt, is the product of a very different social reality than the members of the baby boom who predominate as college faculty and staff. Postmodern influences and sensibilities permeate the expectations of students and may be at odds with what schools intend to offer. This presentation overviews some characteristics of generation NeXt, their social genesis, and these postmodern times, with suggestions for helping generation NeXt be successful in postsecondary education.

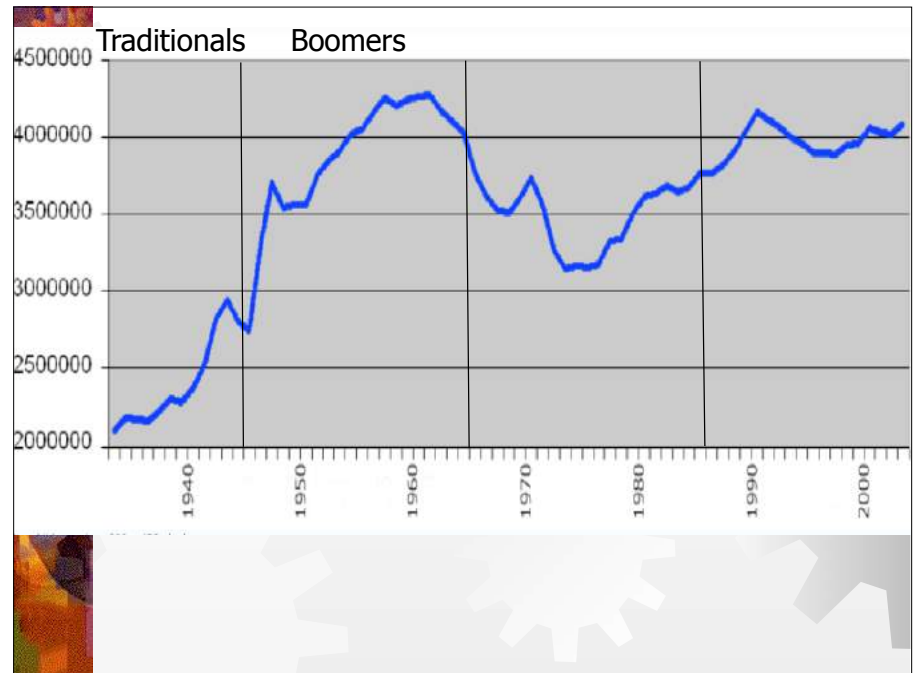
From Gen NeXt to Gen WOKE

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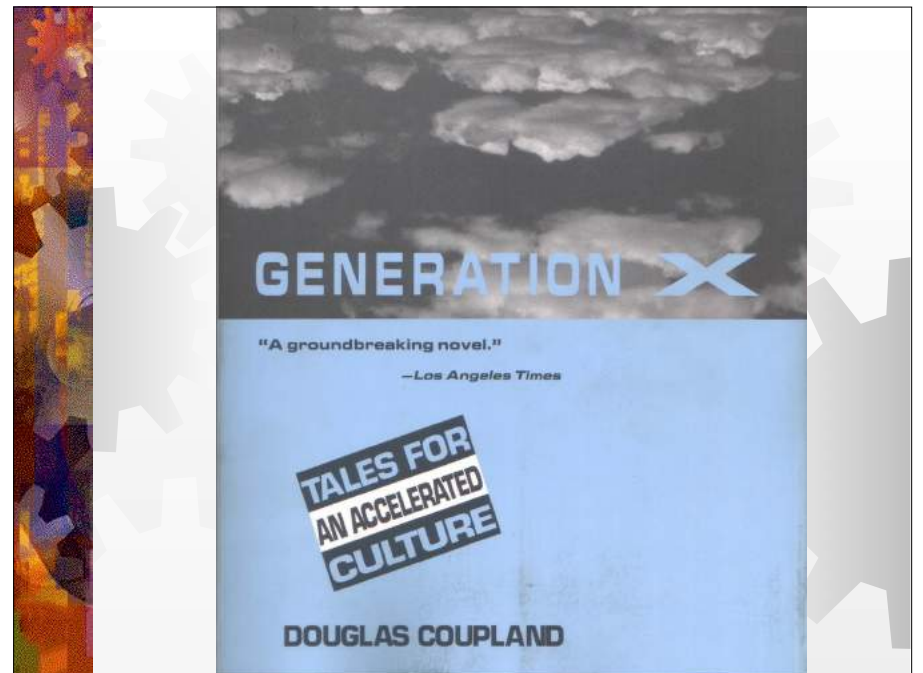
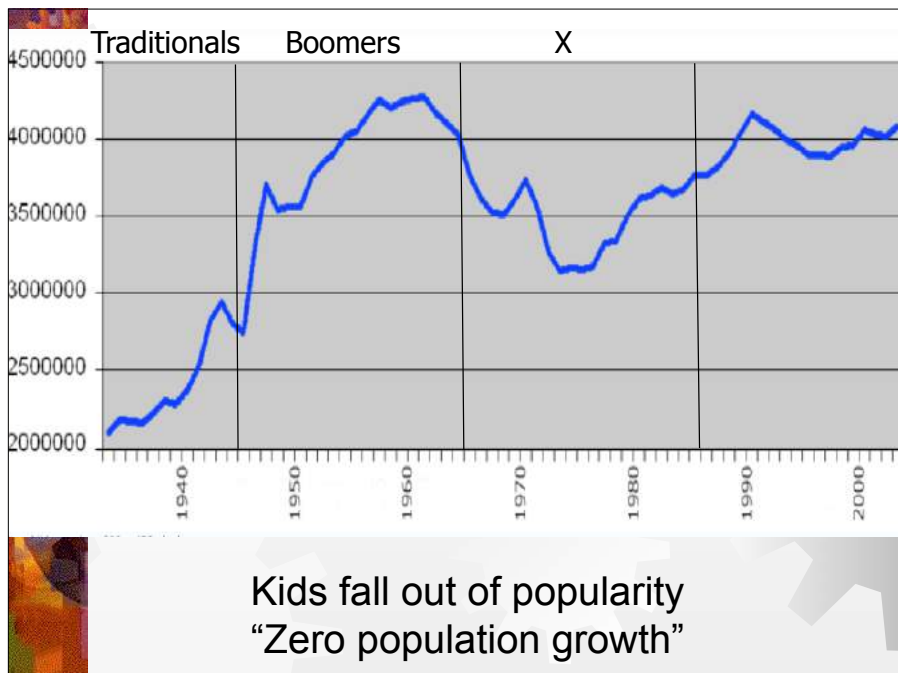
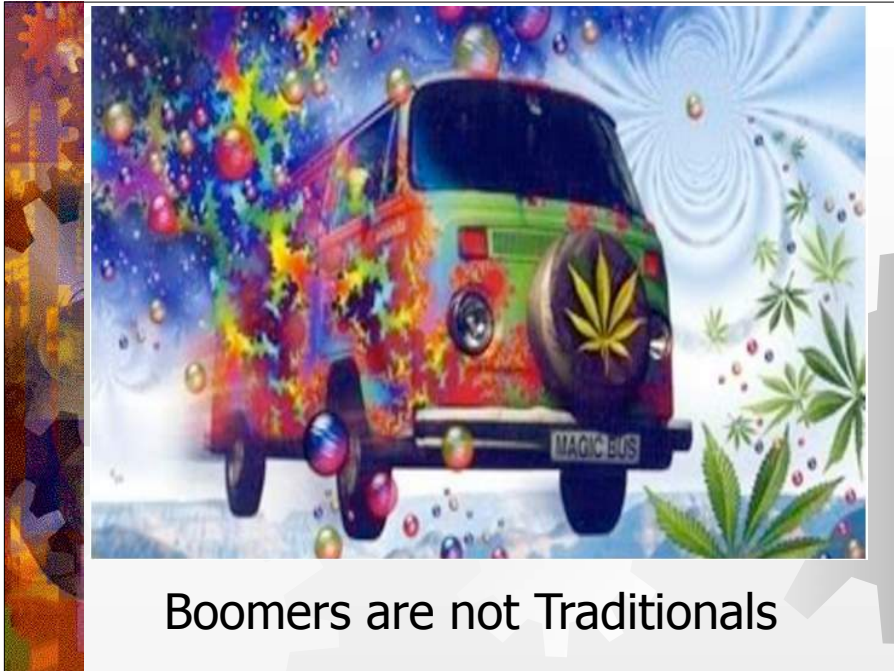


## Traditionals

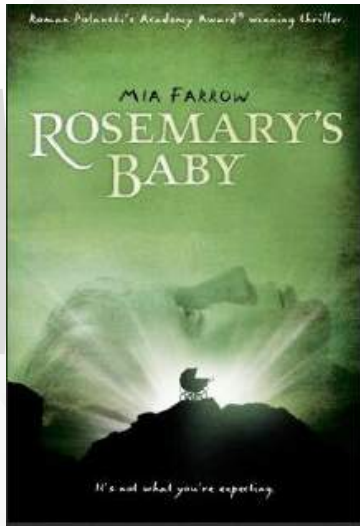
- Last of the "old school"
- Value duty, discipline, thrift,
- Value sacrifice, sobriety, delay of gratification
- Few left at work or classes
- Like social stability
- Not here to have a good time
- Mostly gone; took duty with them.







## Generation X



A time of “low child popularity”. Social roles and possibilities were changing so quickly, kids were “advertised” in the cultural narrative as an impediment to adults’ growth. (Today children are largely seen as a manifestation of parent’s growth.)

## Generation X

- Safety warnings
  - Skeptical, Cautious
- Independent
  - Self-sufficient
- Pragmatic
  - More task, less mission
  - Direct/ blunt
- Less interested in promotion
- Were kids during major social transitions
- Scrappy, ready for anything.



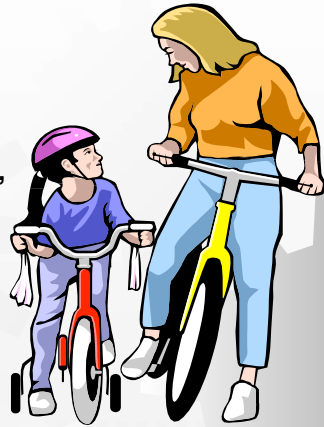
Here comes Generation NeXt





## A Generational Shift

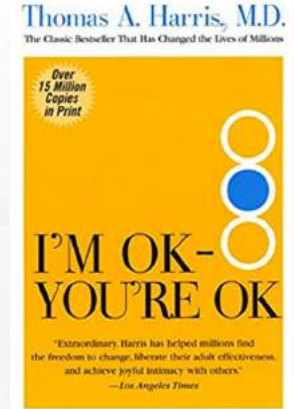
- From the independent, adaptable, pragmatic scrapper of Gen X
- To the era of the **wanted, precious, protected, perfected** child
- Child centric families
- Especially frequently occurring in private colleges
- “The Trophy Child”.



## How We Built Gen Next

- When Boomers became parents they **reacted** to the Traditional parenting they received
  - Critical- we always could have done better
  - Distant- they were not our buddies
  - Physical- they would hit us
  - Authoritarian- their way or....
- New model informed by the Human Potential Movement
  - Parents less authority figures
  - More friends/ facilitators
- The Self-esteem experiment

“If we tell them how great they are and praise them for everything they do, will all of their gifts be revealed?”



## Meet the Parents: Managing for Student Success

Mark Taylor

Few in higher education will disagree that students' parents are inserting and asserting themselves like never before. The infamous helicopter parent, hovering and occasionally swooping in for the rescue, is now often replaced by the “snowplow” or “bulldozer parent,” pushing anticipated obstacles out of their children's way before the children may even be aware of a challenge (Taylor 2006b). While many educators complain that parental involvement in course selection, discipline, and academic work reduces students' opportunities to face meaningful learning and developmental challenges on their own, few deny parents' significance in college selection, student persistence, and financial support.

## HELICOPTERS, SNOWPLOWS, AND BULLDOZERS: MANAGING STUDENTS' PARENTS

BY MARK TAYLOR

MENTION PARENTS TO ADMINISTRATORS, STAFF, OR FACULTY AT MOST COLLEGES TODAY, AND YOU WILL YEAR A LITANY OF COMPLAINTS ABOUT MONITORING, INTERFERENCE, AND DOWNRIGHT INTRUSION IN THEIR WORK WITH STUDENTS. FROM ADMISSION AND HOUSING THROUGH COURSE SELECTION, TO EMPLOYMENT AND STUDENT ORGANIZATION INVOLVEMENT, PARENTS ARE INSERTING AND ASSERTING THEMSELVES LIKE NEVER BEFORE.




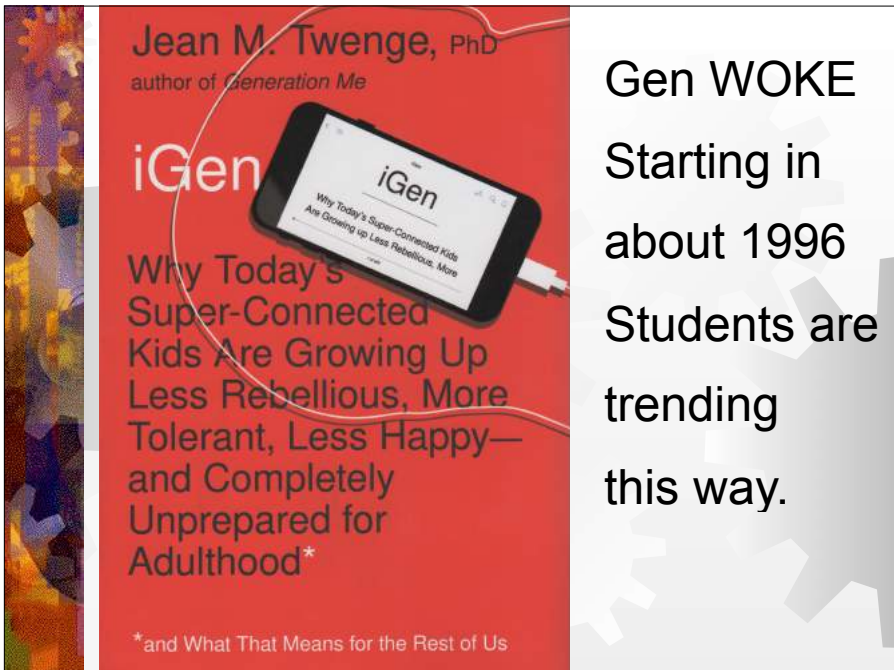
**BRING in YOUR PARENTS DAY**  
Thursday November 5, 2015  
Bring in your parents to work with you and say thanks for everything they've taught you along the way.

[Sign up](#) [Learn more](#)

More companies are involving parents, especially those who want to recruit and retain the most qualified graduates (STEM)

## Generation NeXt born 1983-1996?

- **Disconnected** the reward from significant effort
- May feel **entitled** to outcomes
- May **overrate** their skills, talents and abilities
- May **underrate** the effort required to be successful
- May be **reluctant** to do the hard work of their own learning
- May not accept **responsibility** own learning
- **Even if they come to us like this, they can't leave us like this**
- **If this is the diagnosis, college is the treatment.**


Jean M. Twenge, PhD  
author of *Generation Me*

**iGen**  
Why Today's Super-Connected Kids Are Growing Up Less Rebellious, More Tolerant, Less Happy—and Completely Unprepared for Adulthood\*

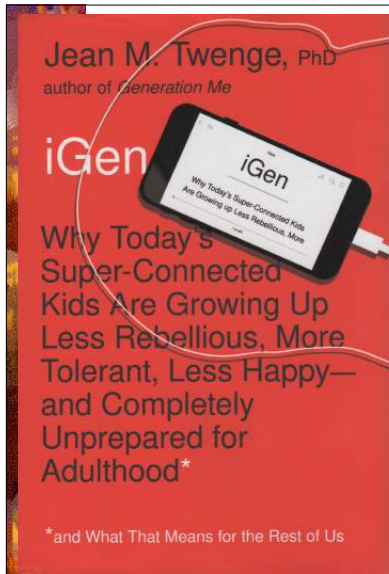
\*and What That Means for the Rest of Us

Gen WOKE  
Starting in about 1996  
Students are trending this way.

- From Delaying adulthood by prolonging adolescence
- To Delaying adolescence by prolonging childhood







- “Growing up slowly”
- Less interested in “independence”
- Less likely to
  - hang out with friends
  - have any face to face time, outside school
  - drive
  - work during school year
  - go out without parents
  - date/ have sex
  - drink alcohol
  - be rebellious
  - fight with parents.

## Have Smartphones Destroyed a Generation?

More comfortable online than out partying, post-Millennials are safer, physically, than adolescents have ever been. But they're on the brink of a mental-health crisis.

JEAN M. TWENGE | SEPTEMBER 2017 ISSUE | TECHNOLOGY

<https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2017/09/has-the-smartphone-destroyed-a-generation/534198/>



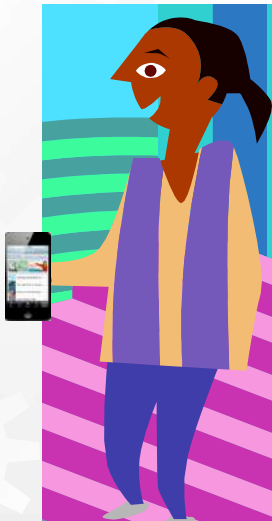
- Addicted to screens from an early age
- Averaging 6 to 8 hours a day
- 2 more on TV
- Replacing lots/ all of their other activities
- Increases in screen time (>3 hrs) show increases in loneliness/ unhappiness/ depression.

Gen NeXt Starting about 1986	WOKE/ iGen Starting about 1995
• Boomer parenting	• Xer parenting
• Protection <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• harm prevention</li> </ul>	• Risk elimination <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• no chances on path to success</li> </ul>
• Praising	• Pushing
• Supporting	• Challenging
• Giving to and doing for	• Teaching skills for success
• Aspirational	• Realistic
• You can be anything	• Find where you can succeed
• “Just have fun”	• Be competitive
• Participation trophies	• Winners win. Be a winner.
• Sensitive to criticism	• Distressed by criticism
• Less likely to do the work	• More likely to do the work
• You didn't teach me that	• May blame themselves
• Less competent but happier.	• More competent but less happy
	• So stressed and anxious.



## Why they will save us all

- ☑ More diverse/ inclusive
  - ☑ Comfortable with/ value diversity
- ☑ Value fairness and human rights
  - ☑ "Everyone is entitled to.."
  - ☑ Alert to aggressions
  - ☑ Will defend others
  - ☑ (May be easily aggrieved)
- ☑ Purposeful- interested in social change
  - ☑ Want to be involved in something important
  - ☑ Want to change the world for the better
    - ☑ But may not know how
- ☑ **Connect with their sense of mission and interest in social change.**



## From Teaching to Learning -

### A New Paradigm for Undergraduate Education

By Robert B. Barr and John Tagg

*The significant problems we face cannot be solved at the same level of thinking we were at when we created them. -Albert Einstein*

A paradigm shift is taking hold in American higher education. In its briefest form, the paradigm that has governed our colleges is this: A college is an institution that exists *to provide* instruction. Subtly but profoundly we are shifting to a new paradigm: A college is an institution that exists *to produce learning*. This shift changes everything. It is both needed and wanted.

*Change, November/December 1995, pp. 13-25. Reprinted with permission of the Helen Dwight Reid Educational Foundation. Published by Heldref Publications, 1319 Eighteenth St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036-1802. Copyright 1995.*

Most college courses represent a systematic failure to create a learning environment that promotes meaningful, lasting student development.

Students are not learning even basic general knowledge, they are not developing higher-level cognitive skills, and they are not retaining their knowledge.

In fact there is little evidence of a significant difference between students who take courses and student who do not.

*Why learn?*

John Tagg 2004

FOREWORD BY TOM WOLFE



## Declining by Degrees

HIGHER EDUCATION AT RISK



Edited by RICHARD H. HERSH and JOHN MERROW

## OUR UNDERACHIEVING COLLEGES



A CANDID LOOK AT HOW MUCH  
STUDENTS LEARN AND  
WHY THEY SHOULD BE LEARNING MORE

DEREK BOK

## Academically *adrift*

Limited Learning on College Campuses

Richard Arum and Josipa Roksa

Issues in  
learning  
outcomes  
especially  
around  
critical  
thinking

## IVORY TOWER

IS COLLEGE WORTH THE COST?

IN THEATERS JUNE 13, 2014

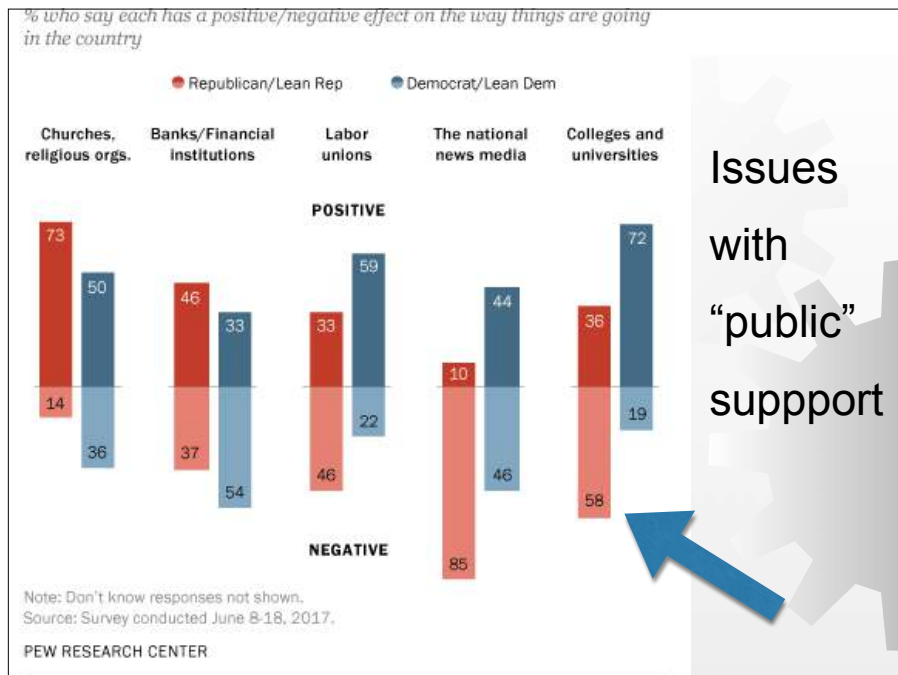
## The Case Against Education

Why the  
Education System  
Is a Waste of  
Time and Money

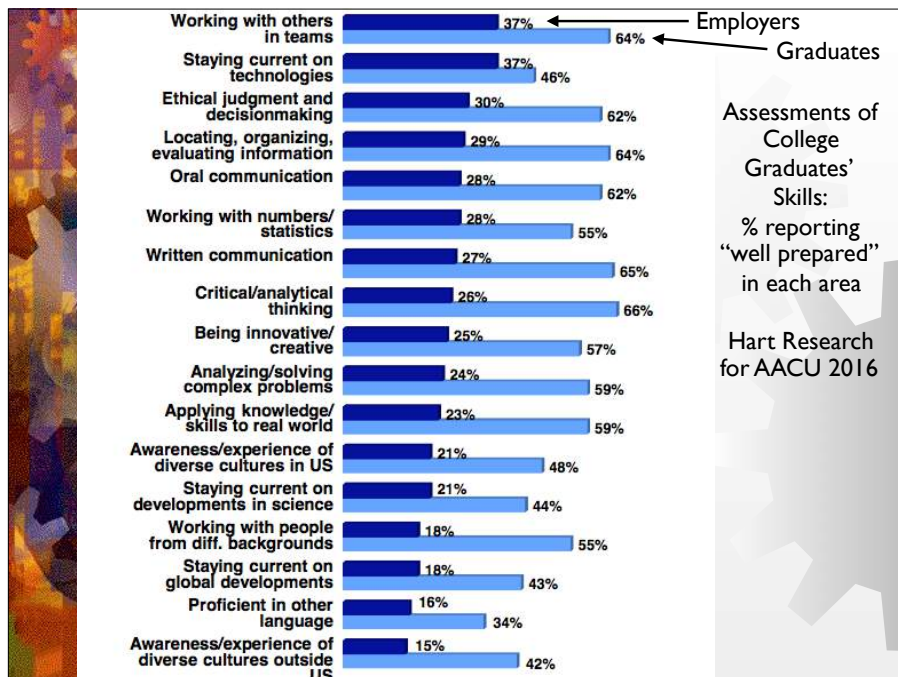
Bryan Caplan

Degree is signaling  
on persistence and  
submissiveness,  
not learning





*“Most colleges are seriously out of step with the real world in getting students ready to become workers in the post-college world”.*



## What the workplace wants

1. Critical **thinking**/ analytical reasoning
2. **Apply** knowledge and skills to real world
3. Effective **oral** communication
4. Work effectively in **teams**
5. Communicate effectively in **writing**
6. Show **ethical** judgement and decision making
7. **Analyze** and solve complex problems
8. Locate, organize and **evaluate** information
9. Manage in a **diverse** environment
10. Innovate and **create**



## Teaching Generation NeXt: A Pedagogy for Today's Learners

### Research based instruction

- What has been tested and demonstrated to be effective in helping students reach learning outcomes
- Neuroscience/ brain science, cognitive social and counseling psychology, communications theory, direct testing of instructional methods
- Very different from traditional, delivery/ lecture based college teaching
- Really very simple.

## Teaching Generation NeXt: A Pedagogy for Today's Learners

### “Whoever does the work does the learning”

- Teaching is not a process of delivery (to produce learning)
  - It is not something you **to** students or **for** students
  - Learning is **constructed by students**, not **received from you**
  - Teaching is directing/ helping/ motivating students do the **hard cognitive work** of their own learning
- From student as **recipient of learning** to **active agent in their own development**
  - From extrinsic to **intrinsic** motivation
  - From something you make them do to a **goal** they want/ value.

## Learning and the Brain

- Learning happens in the brain
  - Changes in number and quality of neural connections
- Learning can be externally encouraged but only **internally initiated**
  - The goal of teaching is to persuade students to **initiate their internal learning processes**
- Simplest- knowledgeable teacher telling students what they need to know
  - Shockingly ineffective in changing the brain.
- “Whoever does the work does the learning.”
- “How do what teaching and learning activities impact what parts of the brain?”



## Teaching Generation NeXt: A Pedagogy for Today's Learners

### “From Remembering to Thinking”

- All information is available
  - There is a requisite body of knowledge in every field
- People don't know what to do with it (application)
- or to make judgements about it (evaluation)
- “Skills” in most classes are about “patterns of thought”
- Think “methods”; not “items of information”
- Cognitively, “remembering” is easier than “analysis/ evaluation”
- Spend class time helping students learn to think/ organize
- Critical thinking.....



# TEACHING AT ITS BEST

{ A Research-Based Resource  
for College Instructors }

THIRD EDITION

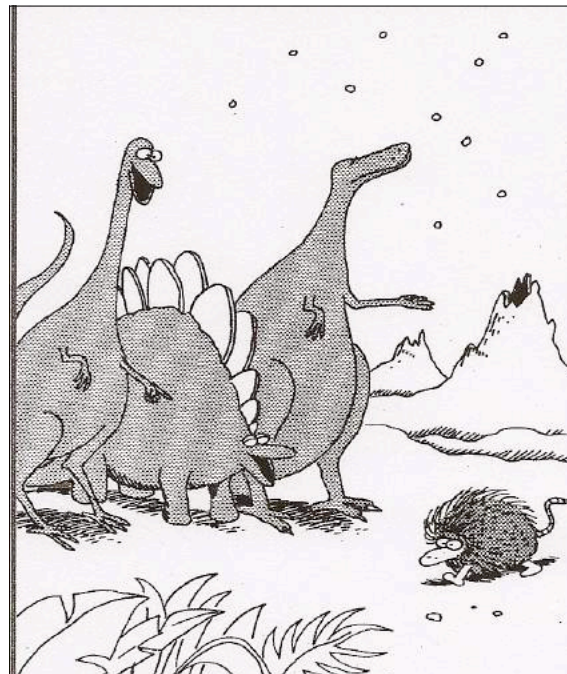
LINDA B. NILSON

## Principles of Best Practice

- **HIGH STANDARDS** and **HIGH SUPPORT**
- Learning based on student **ACTIVITY**
- Very clear **EXPECTATIONS** for being a successful learner
- Academic **OPTIONS** to help them feel some agency
- Non-negotiable **COMPLIANCE** with academic expectations
- Efforts to keep students **ENGAGED**
- Student are **INVESTED**; they care about learning outcomes
- Students are **RESPONSIBLE** for doing the work and for reaching learning outcomes (with your support)
- Learning focuses on **HIGHER LEVEL OUTCOMES**
- Leverages **TECHNOLOGY** for delivering content, skills development and engaging during class.



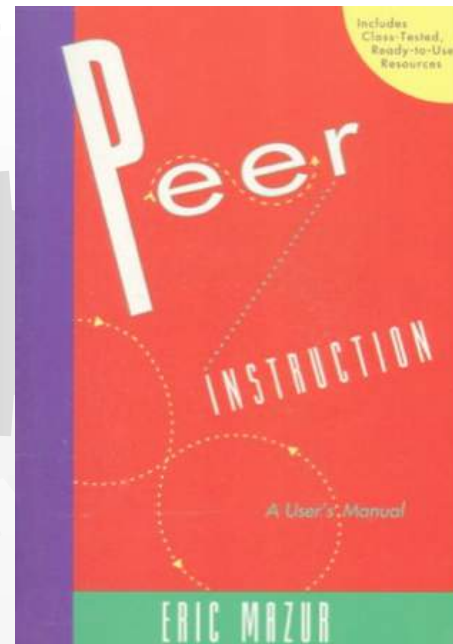
Some faculty have adopted best practices



But best practice  
is not standard  
practice on most  
college campuses,  
and is actively  
resisted on many.

## Why Best Practices?

- Improves learning **outcomes**
  - Lasting remembering and ability to access
  - Skills development
  - Reasoning, evaluation and critical thinking
- Increases student **persistence**
- From extrinsic to **intrinsic** motivation
- From static to **growth** mindset
- Improves **workplace** readiness
- All of your dreams will come true.



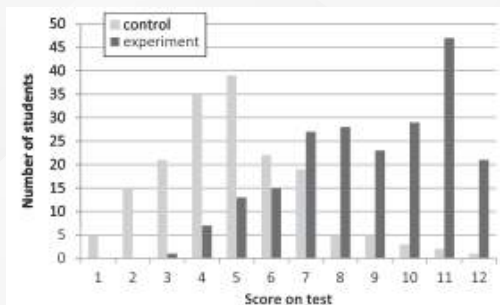
Practice in using logic, reasoning and looking at thinking processes.

## Improved Learning in a Large-Enrollment Physics Class

Science, Vol. 332 no. 6031 pp. 862-864

Louis Deslauriers,<sup>1,2</sup> Ellen Schelew,<sup>2</sup> Carl Wieman<sup>†‡</sup>

We compared the amounts of learning achieved using two different instructional approaches under controlled conditions. We measured the learning of a specific set of topics and objectives when taught by 3 hours of traditional lecture given by an experienced highly rated instructor and 3 hours of instruction given by a trained but inexperienced instructor using instruction based on research in cognitive psychology and physics education. The comparison was made between two large sections ( $N = 267$  and  $N = 271$ ) of an introductory undergraduate physics course. We found increased student attendance, higher engagement, and more than twice the learning in the section taught using research-based instruction.



## Creating Complete Professionals/ Adults “Pedagogies of Formation”

Know what to do

Knowledge/ Information

*Remembering, Understanding*

Effective uploading/ able to recall

Able to do it  
Skills

*Applying, Analyzing, Evaluating*

Habits of the hands  
Habits of the head  
Knowing how

Willing to do it  
Values

*Affective, Worth, Caring*

Attitudes and biases  
Priorities/ judgements  
Knowing when





## Teaching Generation NeXt: A Pedagogy for Today's Learners

1. Improve student's future orientation  
Don't talk to students; talk to the professional they aspire to become
2. Identify class goals/ link to student's goals  
Help students understand the whys/ benefits of the course
3. Improve student understanding of class expectations  
Teach students how to be effective, self-responsible learners
4. Move content learning out of class  
Flip the class. Meet lower level learning outcomes out of class.
5. Create the necessity of preparing for and attending class  
Points for preparation, and completed homework is ticket into class activity
6. Increase classroom activity and engagement  
Whoever does the work does the learning. Class is coordinated student interaction
7. Improve assessments and accountability  
Combine formative and summative assessments.



## Teaching Generation NeXt: A Pedagogy for Today's Learners

1. Improve student's future orientation
  - Don't even talk to students
    - Talk to the professional/ person they aspire to become
  - *What do you want to be when you grow up?*
  - Shove some ego into the future" to improve resilience and persistence
  - It is ok not to know, but should be finding out
    - "Undecided" student rarely successful, even in very short term.



## Teaching Generation NeXt: A Pedagogy for Today's Learners

1. Improve student's future orientation
2. Identify class goals/ link to student's goals
  - Help students understand the connection between this course and their goals/ what they want to become
  - Extrinsic to intrinsic motivation
    - From credentialing or "getting the credit" to learning
  - Not a big a challenge if the name the class and career are the same
  - Menu of Benefits
    - How can (this class) help you?
      - Professional or personal goal
    - How can an A in this class help you?
    - Pick the three most important to you.
    - Convince your neighbor.



## Teaching Generation NeXt: A Pedagogy for Today's Learners

1. Improve student's future orientation
2. Identify class goals/ link to student's goals
3. Improve student understanding of class expectations
  - Helping students understand what it takes to be successful in your class/ program/ profession
  - People tend to assume that "what has worked in the past should work now."
  - Clarifying expectations improves compliance.



### 3. Improve student understanding of class expectation

Making the case for their increased **effort**

- *This discipline is based on research, reason, science and data*
- *I teach based on best practice- the science of learning*
- *We know **Whoever does the work does the learning.***
- *So my job is to help you do the hard work of your own learning*
- *Pretend you have joined "The Learning Gym"*
- *I can't do the work for you*
- *But I will*
  - *make sure you know what to do*
  - *do everything I can to help you be successful.*



## Teaching Generation NeXt: A Pedagogy for Today's Learners

1. Improve student's future orientation
2. Identify class goals/ link to student's goals
3. Improve student understanding of class expectations
4. Move content learning out of class
  - The first step in "Flipping the class"
  - Move lower level learning goal to class preparation time to free live class time for you to help them actively develop higher order thinking skills.



## Teaching Generation NeXt: A Pedagogy for Today's Learners

### 4. Move content learning out of class

- The introduction of material for remembering and understanding
  - Anything you can explain, you can move out of class
- The introduction of skills.
  - Anything you can demonstrate you can move that introduction out of class
  - Out-of-class assignment will have a built in homework expectation.



## Teaching Generation NeXt: A Pedagogy for Today's Learners

1. Improve student's future orientation
2. Identify class goals/ link to student's goals
3. Improve student understanding of class expectations
4. Move content learning out of class
5. Create the necessity of preparing for and attending class



## Simple Tools to Increase Student Engagement

- Engagement with Institution, Instructor, Each other
- Institution
  - Support pedagogies of engagement
- Instructor
  - Mandatory office visit(s)
    - First of term
    - If below 70% on major test
  - Know and use names
    - Mnemonics
    - Name tents
  - E-mail/ contact absent students
  - Encouraging e-mails before major tests with spoilers
- Each other
  - Interactive instructional methods
    - Reflect, pair, square, share
    - Peer instruction- "turn to your neighbor"
    - Jigsaw/ expert groups
  - Group and cooperative learning projects.



## Ensuring Preparation and Attendance

- **Preparation is a necessary precondition for participation in the active class session, which will use the homework**
- Ticket in- especially critical in lower level classes
- Its your job to make homework appropriate to content and students
  - Maybe learn vocabulary instead of learn process
- Need to check each student's preparation before each class
  - Through CMS, at the door, clicker quiz (redundant)
- Points can be earned for preparation
  - Only redeemable at the start of class
- Points can be earned for in-class activity
  - **But only prepared students go into the class activity**
- Unprepared students are given the opportunity to complete the assignment during the class session while other students earn activity points.



## What to do with the unprepared student?

- Have a conversation
- NOT "Why don't you have your homework?"
  - Requires a justification
- ASK "How is it that you are not prepared for class?"
  - Invites an explanation
- Did you **KNOW** what to do?
  - Did you understand the assignment?
- Are you **ABLE** to do it?
  - Can you do work at this level? (strategy)
- Are you **WILLING** to do what it takes to be successful?
  - to put forth the effort
- Don't let them just fade away as they are socialized to the new model
- E-mail absent students
- First few classes may be a formative assessment of your success in the first three steps of the model and appropriateness of the assignments.



## What if they have done the homework but still don't get it?

1. Consider the possibility that the assignment was to complex, difficult, too long
 

First assignments are super-easy, about compliance, about socializing them to prepare every day and to give you a chance to praise them for their effort
- Giving a redundant (clicker) quiz can check their real remembering and understanding, and help solidify their learning and ability to access the content (retrieval effect).
  - Before the quiz ask "*Does anyone have any questions before the quiz?*"
  - They may try to trick you into delivering the content/ killing time/ give the quiz away with a global "*I just didn't get it.*"

## Teaching Generation NeXt: A Pedagogy for Today's Learners

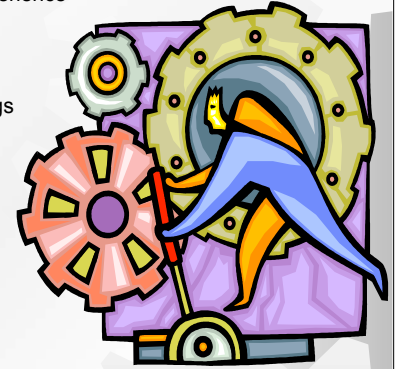
1. Improve student's future orientation
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6. Increase classroom activity and engagement

### Guiding students in doing the hard work of learning.

1. Remembering/ recall
2. Skills like reasoning
3. Affective "caring" belief

## Activity Increases Learning

- Knowledge/ content
  - Actively upload/ practice retrieval
  - Productive homework before class; worksheets, etc.
  - Low stakes assessments
  - Link to previous understanding/ experience
  - Anticipate a use for it
  - Explain to someone else
- Skills- able to do and apply in new settings
  - See a model/ demonstration
  - Practice with feedback
  - Teach someone to do it
- Values- caring/ worth
  - Invest time and effort
  - Identify future benefit
  - Convince someone else.



## Teaching Generation NeXt: A Pedagogy for Today's Learners

### 7. Improve assessments and accountability.

- Assessments increase remembering and ability to access
  - Even when students get the answers wrong
  - "Retrieval effect"
- Combine formative and summative assessments
- Formative- assessments of learning processes and progress
  - Improves ability to remember, apply and transfer
  - Helps student learn to self-access
- Summative- measures of learning outcomes
- **Frequent low stakes testing**

## Teaching Generation NeXt: A Pedagogy for Today's Learners

### 7. Improve assessments and accountability.

1. Pretest on upcoming content
  2. Quiz on homework they just did
  3. Low level quizzing to start the class on what we did last time
  4. Low level quizzing to end the class on what we just did
  5. Random student offers 2-3 minute summary of what we did last class, no notes
  6. Random student offers 2-3 minute summary of what we just did in class, no notes
  7. "Practice" testing- two midterms
  8. Cumulative testing
- Any opportunity to help them retrieve helps them remember longer and to be better able to access the information.



## Critical thinking

- Ability and willingness to apply thinking skills that are appropriate for the content and thinking task.
- Can be taught through practice
- Different models for different disciplines
- Includes
  - Logic and reasoning skills
    - argument analysis
  - Scientific reasoning
    - hypothesis testing and probability
  - Problem solving and decision making skills
    - Setting priorities and “if / then” thinking
  - Self-monitoring of thinking processes
    - Which skills are applied and how
  - Recognition of own assumptions and biases
    - Construction through filters/ “confirmation bias”.



## Critical thinking

- All about QUESTIONS
  - Getting them to work things out
  - And to process how they did it
- Focusing on structural elements/ aspects of the model (beyond content of problem) allows transferability
  - Experimental design instead of this experiment
  - Following process instead of order of operation
  - Plot construction instead of this story.



Teaching Generation NeXt: A Pedagogy for Today's Learners

## Teaching Generation NeXt: A Pedagogy for Today's Learners

1. Improve student's future orientation
 

Don't talk to students; talk to the professional they aspire to become
2. Identify class goals/ link to student's goals
 

Help students understand the whys/ benefits of the course
3. Improve student understanding of class expectations
 

Teach students how to be effective, self-responsible learners
4. Move content learning out of class
 

Flip the class. Meet lower level learning outcomes out of class.
5. Create the necessity of preparing for and attending class
 

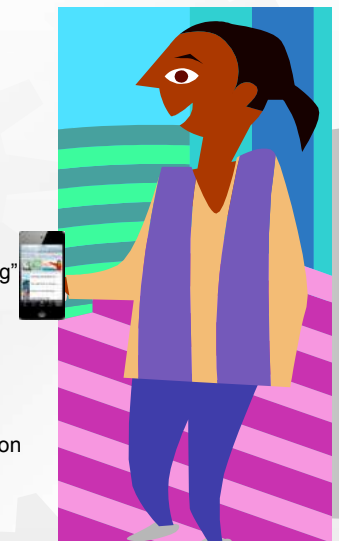
Points for preparation, and completed homework is ticket into class activity
6. Increase classroom activity and engagement
 


Whoever does the work does the learning. Class is coordinated student interaction
7. Improve assessments and accountability
 

Combine formative and summative assessments.

## The Move to Research Based Instruction

- Everyone can/ should/ must move to research based instruction
- Learning outcomes
  - **Critical thinking**
- Persistence
  - Engagement through graduation
- Workplace readiness
  - “critical thinking and analytical reasoning”
- Data/ information rich world
  - Making sense of it
  - Making wise choices based on good, evaluated information and sound decision making.





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For questions, additional  
resources or information about  
programs contact

Dr. Mark Taylor at  
[mark@taylorprograms.com](mailto:mark@taylorprograms.com)