Student Centered Instruction

The Annual Student Success Conference

Omar Simpson, Ph.D
Counselor and Transition Courses Coordinator – Undergraduate Retention
Adjunct Assistant Professor – School of Education
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
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"How can we together create a more efficient, effective just better future of learning?"

- Prince Ea
Goals for today

• Reflect on classroom experiences

• Define student centered instruction

• Describe student centered instructional approaches

• Practical application

• Resources moving forward
Think of a class you were a part of as a undergraduate or graduate student that was student-centered? What techniques or approaches did these faculty utilize? (What about the class was student-centered?)
Why?
Student Perspectives: What is student centered instruction? Is it helpful for students?

• Leslie Acosta Padilla

• Michael Truesdale
Group Questions

• What is student-centered instruction to you? How do you define it? What does it look like in the classroom?

• What are the benefits of a student-centered approach to working with today’s undergraduates?

• Scenarios
Student Centered Instruction – what’s that?

• Student-centered instruction is a broad teaching approach that includes substituting active learning for lectures, holding students accountable for their learning, and using self-paced and/or cooperative (team-based) learning (Felder & Brent, 1996).

• In our view, student-centered learning is a process of learning that puts the needs of the students over the conveniences of planning, policy, and procedure. (www.teachthought.com)

• Student-centered learning (instruction) moves students from passive receivers of information to active participants in their own discovery process. What students learn, how they learn it and how their learning is assessed are all driven by each individual student’s needs and abilities. (www.iste.org/standards/essential-conditions/student-centered-learning)
Student Centered Approaches to Instruction

“Through student-centered instruction, our students can achieve independent minds.” (Brown, 2008)
Assessment

Test, exams, quizzes, projects/assignments

How? Frequency? Personal?
Equal Power-Sharing
(Shared Authority)

See yourself as a “guide on the side,” not a “sage on the stage.”
Choice and Voice

Student-centered instruction encourages collaboration
Active/Interactive/Experiential/Experimental

• “... I point to the following unwelcome truth: much as we might dislike the implications, research is showing that didactic exposition of abstract ideas and lines of reasoning (however engaging and lucid we might try to make them) to passive listeners yields pathetically thin results in learning and understanding—except in the very small percentage of students who are specially gifted in the field.” A. Arons (1997)
Moving Forward

What is one thing you will instill in your classes or work to further student-centered instruction?

Please share with one person.
Resources

• The Center for Faculty Excellence
  • The Faculty Peer Visits Program
  • Professional Interest Manager (PIM)

• The Learning Center
  • App Compendium
Thank you!
References

