



**Short Course in Learning and Teaching in the Classroom**

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**Session One:  
Introduction to the course and to factors that facilitate learning**

**Introduction**

- Background to the course – Why it was developed and what it offers
- What we will be covering in this present course
- Introduction to some factors that facilitate learning and teaching in the classroom:
  - Learning styles

**Exercise: Appreciative enquiry**

*What was your best classroom learning experience (as a student)?.....*

*... and why? – what was it that made it so good?*

**Learning Styles**

- **Colin Rose (1987):**  
*visual, auditory, kinaesthetic & tactile*
- **Honey and Mumford (1982):**  
*theorists, pragmatists, activists, reflectors*

**Exercise:  
Honey and Mumford learning styles**

- *What is your preferred learning style? – which one do you use the most?*
- *What is your least preferred learning style?*

**Reflectors learn best when:**

- observing individuals or groups at work
- Have opportunity to review what has happened; think about what they have learned

**Reflectors learn less when**

- acting as leader or role-playing
- doing things with no time to prepare/ being thrown in at the deep end
- being rushed or worried by deadlines

**Theorists learn best when:**

- put in complex situations where they have to use their skills and knowledge
- they are offered interesting ideas or concepts even though they are not immediately relevant
- Have the chance to question and probe ideas

**Theorists learn less when:**

- they have to participate in situations which emphasise emotion and feelings
- the activity is unstructured or briefing is poor
- they have to do things without knowing the principles or concepts involved

**Activists learn best when...**

- new experiences, problems and opportunities
- working with others in business games, team tasks, role-playing
- being thrown in the deep end with a difficult task
- chairing meetings, leading discussions

**Activists learn less when...**

- listening to lectures or long explanations
- reading, writing or thinking on their own
- following precise instruction to the letter

**Pragmatists learn best when...**

- is an obvious link between the topic and job
- have the chance to try out techniques with feedback e.g. role-playing
- shown techniques with obvious advantages e.g. Saving time or a model they can copy

**Pragmatists learn less when...**

- no obvious or immediate benefit or pay back to the learning they can recognise
- There is no practice or guidelines on how to do it
- the event or learning is 'all theory'

**Exercise: Visual, auditory and kinaesthetic learning styles**

- *What is your preferred learning style? – which one do you use the most?*
- *What is your least preferred learning style?*

**Visual learners learn best .....**

- information is presented so they can see it
- they use their eyes or visual imagination to learn

**Auditory learners learn best ....**

- by hearing and using their ears

**Kinaesthetic learners learn best ....**

- where there is a physical sensation, such as movement, touch or a feeling

*How may knowledge and understanding about learning styles be useful in facilitating classroom teaching and learning?*



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### **Honey and Mumford learning styles (1982, 1992)**

#### **Activist**

- I like to be involved in new experiences.
- I prefer to work in intuitive, flexible and spontaneous ways, generating ideas and trying out new ideas.
- I enjoy doing things and tend to act first and consider the implications later.
- I like working with others - I usually have a lot to say and contribute.
- I like to learn from experience, such as through problem solving, group work, workshops, discussion or team work.

#### **Reflector**

- I like to stand back and look at a situation from different perspectives, and reflect, gathering information and taking time to consider all options and alternatives before making a decision.
- I enjoy observing others and will listen to others views before offering my own.
- Lecture, project work and working alone suit me best.

#### **Theorist**

- I like to learn by going through things thoroughly and logically step by step, with clear guidelines, and to feel I have learnt thoroughly before I have to apply what I know.
- I can adapt and integrate observations into complex and logically sound theories.
- I prefer to learn from books, problem-solving and discussion.

#### **Pragmatist**

- I like to learn by "trying things out" to see if they work, just getting on with it, getting to the point.
- I like to be practical and realistic and I like concepts that can be applied to my work.
- I can be impatient with lengthy discussions.
- I prefer to learn on work based projects and practical applications.



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### Visual, auditory, kinaesthetic and tactile learning styles

Adapted from Colin Rose (1987) Accelerated learning

When you...	Visual	Auditory	Kinaesthetic & Tactile
<b>Spell</b>	Do you try to see the word?	Do you sound out the word or use a phonetic approach?	Do you write the word down to see if it feels right?
<b>Talk</b>	Do you dislike listening for very long? Do you favour words such as <i>see, picture, imagine</i> , when you talk?	Do you enjoy listening but are impatient to talk? Do you favour words such as <i>hear, tune, think</i> ?	Do you gesture and use expressive movements? Do you favour words such as <i>feel, touch, hold</i> ?
<b>Concentrate</b>	Do you become distracted by untidiness or movement?	Do you become distracted by sounds or noise?	Do you become distracted by activity around you?
<b>Meet someone again</b>	Do you forget names but remember faces or where you met?	Do you forget faces but remember names or what you talked about?	Do you remember best what you did together?
<b>Contact people on business</b>	Do you prefer direct, face to face, personal meetings?	Do you prefer the telephone?	Do you talk with them whilst walking or participating in an activity?
<b>Read</b>	Do you like descriptive scenes or pause to imagine the actions?	Do you enjoy dialogue and conversation or hear the characters talk?	Do you prefer action stories or are not a keen reader?
<b>Do something new at work</b>	Do you like to see demonstrations, diagrams, posters?	Do you prefer verbal instructions or talking about it with someone else?	Do you prefer to jump right in and try it?
<b>Put something together</b>	Do you look at the directions and the picture?		Do you ignore directions and figure it out as you go along?
<b>Need help with a computer application</b>	Do you seek out pictures or diagrams?	Do you call the help desk, ask a neighbour or shout at the computer?	Do you keep trying to do it or try on another computer?