Transformative Learning & Adult Education

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Professor

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The journal is a written reflection of your learning journey while working in each course. The

Learning Journal integrates the essential elements of the course within your professional field of

interest. The objective of the course journal is to produce a degree of acculturation, integrating

new ideas into your existing knowledge of each course. This is also an opportunity to

communicate with your professor insights gained as a result of the course. The course

learning journal should be 3-5 pages in length and should include the following sections:

1. Introduction – Summarize the intent of the course, how it fits into the graduate

program as a whole, and the relevance of its position in the curricular sequence.

2. Personal Growth - Describe your personal growth–how the course stretched or

challenged you– and your progress in mastery of course content and skills during

the week and through subsequent readings – what new insights or skills you gained.

3. Reflective Entry - Add a reflective entry that describes the contextualization (or

adaptation and relevant application) of new learning in your professional field.

What questions or concerns have surfaced about your professional field as a result

of your study?

4. Conclusion – Evaluate the effectiveness of the course in meeting your professional,

religious, and educational goals.

The intent of this course was to raise my awareness about Adult Learning Theory and related work. As a Career Coach and the CEO of an educational ministry, it is imperative that my own perspective is stretched and trained in order to serve my students, clients, and most importantly, the Kingdom.

This course fits into the Graduate Program just like my 3 other courses, and that is perfectly placed. As an educational program developer it is important that I understand learning theory, especially if I focus on retirees and encouraging them to help build the Kingdom.

Understanding Andragogy is new to me, a student that went through the public education system in the 70’s and 80’s. The passive learning system continues today, but other options are available (e.g., charter and homeschool). Unfortunately, it is a game of economics which is also political. Instead of a united department of education showcasing all the options in an effort to help all students thrive, it is a battle for the money that follows the student. As a Christian educator, I want to help students find the best fit for their learning style. To do this, I needed to understand Adult Learning Theory.

This course taught me about Pedagogy and Andragogy; and the need for evolution within the public education system. This class also helped me to transform my own vision for clients discovering their career calling. I intend to add spiritual gifting discovery in order to help clients determine how they can grow the Kingdom.

During this course I was voted in as the CEO of an educational ministry based in California. There are lots of opportunities to serve the Kingdom with this new position. Having completed this course, I look forward to future courses because God is teaching me every day.

The research I conducted for the course allowed me to read about a variety of studies done and how Adult Learners learn. I am encouraged and also know that I need to keep students in other countries in mind when developing a program for them. I am excited because the learners taking my training and education courses will be Adult Learners that have many of the principles as part of their educational DNA. This will make training easier because they will want to learn and we will teach them in a way conducive to their learning style.

Research also indicated that students whose self concept may be at lower levels can be helped and that assistance will translate into better outcomes later on. I also learned that there has been a rise in students taking a gap year. This is very troubling to me as an educator because I also realize that college has become more of a business. These two factors require the Kingdom to step up and reach out to the lost, giving them hope for a bright future. As we do this, we can help students discover their Godly design and point them in the right direction for career choices. We can also teach them to get through college with minimal debt. Lessons that have gone by the wayside for many.

Becoming a changemaker requires leadership skills as well as a strategic plan and an OGS degree accompanied by faculty support! It is critical that these statements also be carried in prayer because through God all things are possible. Some of these changes can be seen as very political and that is because the world is very chaotic with 70% of students losing their faith once they step on campus.

Just as we are made in God’s image, we are also uniquely made. Knowing how we are wired is helpful because we are innately drawn to things that we are or will be good at. This is true for our calling and it will reveal itself in school. Doing what we are meant to do comes more naturally to us. As a Career Coach I feel compelled to reach more students because they need to know how they are wired. The Christian community can step up too and hopefully they will as I reach out to them to support them in their churches.

When God whispered to me “retirees”, I believe he did so because if I reach out to them, they can mentor today’s youth, especially the foster youth who are aging out by the thousands every year. With God’s help we can reach the unreached for the Kingdom in the US and across the globe.

While I struggle with staying up with the coursework, I truly enjoyed the content and learning from Dr. Reichard. It was less biblical, but is flanked by more biblical classes. As a Christian, I know that the Bible must be incorporated in every aspect of my life and work. It is amazing to think that God is in this! In what I envision for my next career chapter. He prompted me to ask my CEO about his succession plan, which now resulted in my being the new CEO of an educational ministry. He even brought me to OGS.