Transformative Learning and Adult Education

Quinton Egon

Omega Graduate School

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**Assignment #1 – Course Essential Elements**

1. **Select One (1) Core Essential Element from the Syllabus Outline:**

**Weekend Residency**: Create a 350-word original discussion paper (with cited sources) during the week of the residency. Be prepared to discuss and engage with other students during the live sessions.

Adults learn differently than children; teaching the two shouldn’t be the same. When I started college at the tender age of 18, I relied on the support/guidance of the professor to help me make the grade; my approach to learning at that time leaned more toward pedagogy than andragogy. “In the pedagogic model, teachers assume responsibility for making decisions about what is learned and how and when something will be learned. It is teacher-directed or teacher-centered. In Pedagogy, the educational focus is on transmitting knowledge in a very teacher-controlled environment, focusing on the content subject matter. The principle can be summarized as letting the teacher teach; after all, he or she knows what needs to be learned” (Alabisi & Trifiro 2023, p.3).

Upon returning to college for a second time, well into my forties, my approach was different; unlike before, I took full responsibility for my learning. During my second stint, I moved from under the banner of pedagogy to andragogy, assuming the role of a self-directed adult learner.

As an adult learner, my approach to acquiring knowledge changed drastically. Before, I wanted the teacher to tell me what to do and how to do it.

As a self-directed adult learner and graduate student, I desire to learn things independently to retain better the knowledge I acquire. As stated in my research. “Graduate program learning was enhanced by the relevance of assignments to learners’ needs and interests. Participants commented that assignments were individualized, offering choices and permitting students to choose those most relevant for them in their unique setting. Participants felt connected by these assignments, and this helped with long-term learning retention” (Broughton et al., 2023, p.59).

Adults learn differently than children and often bring life experiences with them to the classroom; therefore, teaching them should reflect that. In the pedagogic model, teachers assume responsibility for what is learned and how it will be introduced.

As an adult learner, I don’t want my professors to tell me what to think; I want them to help me navigate critical analysis processes that will lead me to draw my conclusions.

WORKS CITED

Alabisi, A., & Vucetic-Trifirò, C. (2023). Pedagogy, andragogy and heutagogy: How are they related?*The e - Journal of Business Education & Scholarship of Teaching,*17(2), 1-7.

<https://www.proquest.com/scholarly-journals/pedagogy-andragogy-heutagogy-how-are-they-related/docview/2878448011/se-2>

Broughton et at. (2023). Challenges and expectations of baby boomers seeking a graduate degree.*Delta Kappa Gamma Bulletin,*89(5), 53-62.

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