PHI 800-12: Transformative Learning and Adult Education

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Professor

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Content Questions

Assignment #1 – Course Essential Elements

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

a. 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. Post this document in DIAL.

b. Professor will check for quality of content and word-count requirements. Grade assigned will be Credit or No Credit (CR/NC).

**Multiple Intelligence Theory**

According to the theory of multiple intelligences, human intelligence is multifaceted and includes a variety of modalities. As outlined by Gardner (1993) these modalities include verbal-linguistic, logical-mathematical, spatial-visual, bodily-kinesthetic, musical, interpersonal, intrapersonal, naturalistic, and existential intelligences. Gardner (1993) suggests that people have distinct combinations and strengths across different intelligences, which influence their learning methods and information processing. Recognizing and appreciating these distinctions may help instructors customize their teaching techniques to meet the different needs and preferences of their pupils. According to Patanella and Ebanks (2020), educators can create inclusive learning environments that promote individual growth and development by understanding the multifaceted nature of intelligence. This acknowledgment can also help guide students down paths that are aligned with their strengths, interests, and potential career paths.

Verbal-linguistic intelligence includes expertise in language usage and understanding, which allows people to communicate successfully and succeed at activities like public speaking and writing (Gardner, 1993). Logical-mathematical intelligence includes analytical thinking and problem-solving abilities, which are required for dealing with abstract issues and applying mathematical principles in real situations. Spatial-visual intelligence helps people to comprehend and handle visual information, which is useful in domains like graphic design and architecture (Gardner, 1993). Bodily-kinesthetic intelligence is characterized by physical coordination and skilled movement, as seen in sports and the performing arts.

Musical intelligence is sensitivity to pitch, rhythm, and sound, which aids in musical invention or enjoyment (Gardner, 1993). Understanding and negotiating social dynamics is part of interpersonal intelligence, which is useful in occupations that require efficient communication and teamwork (Gardner, 1993). Intrapersonal intelligence includes self-awareness and emotional control, which are essential for personal development and decision-making. Naturalistic intelligence entails observing and categorizing the natural environment, which is useful in domains such as ecology and botany (Gardner, 1993). Finally, existential intelligence entails thinking deeply about human existence and purpose, forcing people to consider their role in the world (Gardner, 1993).

Despite its popularity, the hypothesis of multiple intelligences has been criticized, primarily for a lack of scientific evidence supporting its validity. Some contend that the postulated intelligences may just be natural abilities rather than discrete types of intelligence (Patanella & Ebanks, 2020). Nonetheless, proponents of the idea argue that it is valuable for supporting varied educational techniques and acknowledging the multidimensional character of human cognition. Recognizing and accommodating various learning styles allows educators to build more inclusive and successful learning environments that respond to students' unique needs and skills.

# Works Cited

Gardner, H. (1993). *Multiple intelligences : the theory in practice.* Basic Books.

Patanella, D., & Ebanks, C. (2020). Gardner’s Theory of Multiple Intelligences. *Encyclopedia of Child Behavior and Development*, 681-682.