

ANDRAGOGICAL TEACHING IN RECENT CONTEXT

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Abstract:

Andragogy means adult education. According to Malcolm Knowles, andragogy is the art & science of adult learning thus andragogy refers to any form of adult learning.

It is seven learning styles of adult learning.

1) Visual 2) Kinaesthetic 3) Aural 4) Social 5) Solitary 6) Verbal 7) Logical.

In this learning styles adult need to focus more on the process & less on the content. So the teacher use effective strategies for teaching adult learners like learner's life experience, story telling, breakup information, feedback in the moment of need, visually stimulating & questions & discussion.

Key words: *Andragogy, Pedagogy, Andragogical Learning.*

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Concept of Andragogical Learning:

Andragogical learning mean the understanding of science & practice of adult learning. Adults learns through self actualization, gaining experiences & problem solving.

The term andragogy & Pedagogy:

Andragogy & Pedagogy both words refer to learning strategies, they each have their own distinct philosophies.

Andragogy:

Andragogy refers to the methods & approaches used in adult education & is directed towards self actualization, gaining experience & problem solving.

In practical terms, andragogy means that instruction for adults needs to focus more on the process & less on the content being taught.

Pedagogy:

Pedagogy is an educational method in which the learner is dependent on the teacher for guidance, evaluation & acquisition of knowledge.

Knowles' 6 Assumptions of Adult Learners: These are as the following:

- 1) Self concept
- 2) Learning from experience
- 3) Readiness to learn
- 4) Immediate applications
- 5) Internally motivated
- 6) Need to know

Knowles' 4 Principles of Andragogy:

In 1984, Knowles suggested 4 principles that are applied to adult learning.

- 1) Adults need to be involved in the planning & evaluation of their instruction.
- 2) Experience (including mistakes) provides the basis for the learning activities.
- 3) Adults are most interested in learning subjects that have immediate relevance & impact to their job or personal life.
- 4) Adult learning is problem – centered rather than context oriented (Kearsley, 2010)

Learning styles of Adult Learners:

There are seven learning styles of adult learners.

- 1) Visual
- 2) Kinaesthetic
- 3) Aural
- 4) Social
- 5) Solitary
- 6) Verbal
- 7) Logical.

Effective strategies for Teaching Adult Learners:

- 1) Keep the lessons relevant.
- 2) Focus on learner's life experience
- 3) Tell stories as teaching
- 4) Break up information to avoid cognitive overload.
- 5) Provide feedback in the moment of need.
- 6) Make the material visually stimulating.
- 7) Encourage questions & discussions.

Andragogical Teaching:

Adults prefer a personalized learning environment with focused effort on conceptual application where they can solve problems & take personal responsibility.

1) Use Self Directed Learning:

Design programs for all general groups because there will be different view points & values set in a learning environment. Concepts should be explained from more than one view point & appeal to adult learners in different age groups. Adults prefer self directed learning over group learning. Self directed learning does not mean isolated learning, it involves using other people as resource subject matter. They like learning via auditory, visual & kinesthetic means.

2) Set Expectations upfront:

Set expectation at the beginning of the class since adults have learning & classroom expectations, it is vital that the instructor clarifies & thoroughly articulates all expectations before discussing the context. The instructor's & the learner's expectations should be discussed & noted. The instructor can assume responsibility only for her expectations, not those of the learners. One expectation that a good instructor will have is for learner's to actively participate in the learning process. A good instructor knows that new & old knowledge have to be integrated & applied to achieve knowledge retention & learning success.

3) Use Life Experiences:

Tap & use life experiences that each learner brings to the learning environment. Life experience is a valuable asset that should be acknowledged & used because adults learn well when they share experience with one another.

One of the best ways to pull knowledge & experience from learners is to use open ended questions to draw out relevant knowledge & experience. An open ended question is one with more than a one word answer, the answer has to be expounded upon to thoroughly address the question.

4) Create a Comfortable Environment:

Teach adults with book, television programmed instruction, “how to” content & applications. Adult learners positively rate short seminars & lectures as a preferred learning method because these venues give them face to face & one-on-one access to an expert. The lectures must be short because adults tend to have a high level of irritability if they have to sit for long periods in a learning environment. The environment must be physically & psychologically comfortable & they should have time to practice what they are learning.

5) Feedback & Practice:

Provide feedback during skills practice sessions Learner’s depend on the instructor to give them feedback to let them know how they are doing if they are grasping the concepts & ideas & for confirmation likewise the instructor is depend on learner’s for feedback about curriculum & her classroom performance. This valuable information gives the instructor the opportunities to make midstream changes to positively affect the learning environment if needed.

6) Balance Time & Discussion:

Allow adult learners to somewhat control the pace of the class & start & stop time without losing control of the class. A good instructor knows how to balance time, presentation, discussions & debate & still go with the flow, while maintaining facilitative control. An adult learners does best in an environment in which the instructor acts as orchestrator using facilitative skills & control to keep disagreements civil, protect & connect opinions & ideas & suggest solutions to problems.

Conclusion: In the recent context teacher must know & understand the adult’s physical & psychological situation. Teacher must guide as they are essential or needed at present situation so Teacher must be motivated to learning & he should be significant knowledge & experience gained by training program.

Teacher should be able to analyse & check teaching material. Teachers should receive feedback about their progress. The teacher needs to use andragogy of adult learners in his daily teaching and make them able to learn through self experience. If andragogy in use teaching learning process it will help to achieve the objective of NEP 2020.

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