

How Do I Employ Evidence Based Teaching Methods?

Overall: Since 1987 (at least!) there has been good evidence that certain teaching approaches with students actually enhance their learning.

- In the mid 1980s, a group of experienced college educators met under the auspices of the American Association of Higher Education (AAHE) to summarize evidence that promoted learning in students. The result was an article that appeared in the March 1987 issue of the AAHE Bulletin entitled [Seven Principles For Good Practice In Undergraduate Education](#), authored by Arthur Chickering and Zelda Gamson;
- The “**Chickering and Gamson’s 7 Principles**” state that **good practice**, in undergraduate education:
 1. **encourages student-faculty contact:** contact between students and their teachers is the most important factor in student motivation and involvement;
 2. **encourages cooperation among students:** working with others increases involvement in learning, sharpens thinking and deepens understanding;
 3. **encourages active learning:** students must talk about what they are learning, write about it, relate it to past experiences and apply it to their daily lives and real situations;
 4. **gives prompt feedback:** knowing what you know and don’t know focuses learning. Students need appropriate feedback on performance to benefit from courses;
 5. **emphasizes time on task:** how an educational institution defines time expectations for students, faculty, administrators, and other professional staff an establish the basis for high performance for all;
 6. **communicates high expectations:** expecting students to perform well becomes a self-fulfilling prophecy when teachers and institutions hold high expectations of themselves and make extra efforts;
 7. **respects diverse talents and ways of learning:** students need the opportunity to show their talents and learn in ways that work for them. Then they can be pushed to learning in new ways that do not come so easily.
- An article on development and adaptation of the seven principles by Chickering and Gamson can be read [HERE](#);
- In addition, continuing studies using evidence-based research validate certain methods and approaches. See [HERE](#). Table 1 of this document summarizes evidence based student results from:
 - The Modernized Lecture;
 - Problem-Based Learning;
 - Case Study Teaching;
 - Team-Based Learning;
 - Interteaching;
 - Just-In-Time Teaching;
 - Service Learning;
 - Web-Based Computer Aided Personalized Instruction;
 - Online Learning.

Please address any concerns, questions or requests for support to:



stc@schulich.uwo.ca