

Definition of diversity --- most think of race -- but expanding to include culture, age, social class and least considered, gender

Considering that the school age population is becoming increasingly poor and nonwhite and majority of those entering teaching are white, middle class, female - the contrast goes without saying

American Cognitive pattern

Operates with facts and data
Concerned with immediate results/goals
Highly analytical

High need for individual achievement
Recognition
Independence

Contrast American pattern

Operates with ideas
Concerned with process
Holistic or relational

high need for belonging
dependence

Vast differences within and across groups.

Solution: variety of delivery methods

Individualistic Learning – judged on criteria set forth only by student **and** competitive learning

Cooperative Learning – positive goal interdependence. Some sort of supraordinate goal that involves all. Mixed ability/gender groups. Group grade and task specialization. (used in my Gender Studies class – for female equanimity [each group assigned the political, economic, educational, familial functions] encourage discussion and development of interpersonal skills.

Inquiry teaching – encourages critical thinking and problem solving; teacher facilitates
In college called problem-based education. Falls under active learning. Solve some sort of world problem: (environmental, trade, political science)

Liberation pedagogy – discusses issues of power and powerlessness. Seeks to understand how these are socially constructed and puts the student at the center of the educational process. Teaching of ethics, morality, social justice.

Transcendent goal: the purpose for doing what you are doing.