My Philosophy of Teaching and Learning
By John Inman

For me, teaching is providing new road maps for learners on a life long journey, where life is a gift from God, and we are all responsible to grow to make full use of our gift. I model my personal journey as an example of how to use new road maps to thrive in a dynamically changing life and world. My students embrace these new road maps and perhaps enhance and enrich their journeys and the journeys of those in their lives.

"Those who invest themselves in becoming all they can become and, more important than that, those who invest themselves in helping others become all they can become, are involved in the most important work on the face of the earth. That is, they are helping to complete God's plan." (Eric Hoffer)

*To insure that learners are provided with a learning experience that is meaningful and learner centered, I will create a **cooperative learning** environment (Slavin, Johnson, Kagan) that:*

1. *Is **experiential** for the learners by:*
   a) *Real life application of content taught (Situated Cognition)*
   b) *Using cooperation and collaboration in teams for learning from each other (Johnson & Johnson)*
   c) *Requesting learner to construct his/her own meaning of concepts and definition (Constructivist: Bredo)*
   d) *Postulating multiple perspectives (Transformatist: Mezirow, Freire, Daloz)*

2. *Encourages belief in one's own ability, **efficacy**, to complete given tasks (Social Cognitive: Bandura) by:*
   a) *Requiring students to teach what they have learned*
   b) *My modeling content and strategies for learner*
   c) *Having learners self direct and apply learning through goal setting*

3. *Encourages the **intellectual pursuit of knowledge** (Cognitivist: Mezirow) by:*
   a) *Structuring class to include dialogue, debate, and communicative discourse to gain new insights*
   b) *Structuring lessons that include Questioning (Taba)*
   c) *Building in time for reflection (Brookfield)*
   d) *Introducing learners to multiple sources of knowledge related to real life*
   e) *Brainstorming ideas with peers in a social setting: Affinity Diagram*
   f) *Mentoring learners (Transformatist: Daloz)*

"Education is the process of narrowing the gap that exists in all of us between what we are and what we can become." (Earl Nightingale)

Foundation Theory Chart
for John Inman

Social Cognitive Theory

- (Bandura)

Efficacy
- Mastery Learning
- Imitation
- Modeling
- Social Persuasion

Self-Regulation
- Applied Learning
- Self-Direction
- Goal Setting
- Persistence

Cognitivism

- Critical Thinking
- Dialogue/Discussion
- Questioning (Taba)
- Reflection (Brookfield)
- Real Life Application (Knowels)

Social Transformation

Constructivism

- (Bredo, Lave)
- Situated Cognition
- Definitions/Concepts
- Constructed Models, Plans