

Chapter 3

Learning Theories and Allagegogy: Teaching the Distance Learner

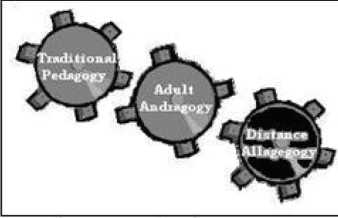
Learning Objectives. Chapter Three introduces the reader to the newest “ology” of teaching: allagegogy: “teaching to transform” as introduced by Priest (2002), to describe a newer approach to education that focuses on learner independence and the inherent changes that define lifelong learning. Linked closely to allagegogy is the humanistic school of educational psychology. From the humanistic perspective, teachers are concerned with making learning responsive to the affective needs of their students, those related directly to the student’s emotions, feelings, values, and attitudes. This goal of this chapter is to familiarize the reader with:

- The nature of the distance learner and characteristics inherent to allagegogy, including the ability to work independently or in a group, completing assignments and readings with minimal supervision, writing in a clear and articulate manner, managing time, using different delivery formats, and working with technology tools.
- A different perspective on accepting learners needs and purposes and creating educational experiences and programs for the development of each student’s unique potential.
- Recognizing the importance of human feelings, values, and perceptions in the educational process while developing a learning climate that is challenging, understanding, supportive, exciting, free

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Learning Theories and Allageogy

Figure 1. Distance Lesson Plan Template (Focus on the Learner)

 Focus on the Learner	
Grade Level: Science Online	
Psychology of the Lesson: Humanism	
Major instructional application:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Open education	<input type="checkbox"/> Cooperative learning
Distance learner characteristics targeted by this lesson plan:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Self-motivation	
<input type="checkbox"/> Time management skills	
<input type="checkbox"/> Self-discipline	
<input type="checkbox"/> Reading comprehension	
<input type="checkbox"/> Persistence	
<input type="checkbox"/> Availability of time	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ability to use a desktop or laptop computer, printer, software, and Internet	
<input type="checkbox"/> Typing speed and accuracy	

from threat, and instills a genuine concern and respect for the worth of others and skills in resolving conflicts.

- The major theorists of humanism to include Abraham Maslow, Lawrence Kohlberg, and Carl Rogers.
- The major instructional applications of humanistic psychology to include: moral character education, open education, and cooperative learning.
- The key criticisms of humanism and the distance learner.
- Humanism and the Engine for Designing Technology-based Instruction

Lesson Plan Template. Refer to **Appendix C, Distance Learner Lesson Plan Template** as the chapter discusses **Focus on the Learner** as depicted in Figure 1.

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