

CEEA2018: UBC, Vancouver, Canada

greening engineering

in a learner-centered participatory environment
a workshop

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the message: toward positive engineering schools

knowledge content is a means to an end, not an end in itself.

greening is about
discovering, integrating, experiencing,
and collaborating across functions,
disciplines, and people.



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Teach as taught!

While looking back over my about 35 years as an educator, I have witnessed significant change on many things but few basic things still remain unchanged. In technology, we have progressed from slide rules to calculators to computers and the Internet. Just notice; what that entails?

Currently, we are witnessing an exciting times for engineering! The challenge is how do we teach 21st century skills and competencies to students. Shall we focus on the traditional curriculum content or on the environment in which they learn?



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The “what” and “why”

What are the pedagogies that make-up engineering education?

How are they related to engineering professional practice?

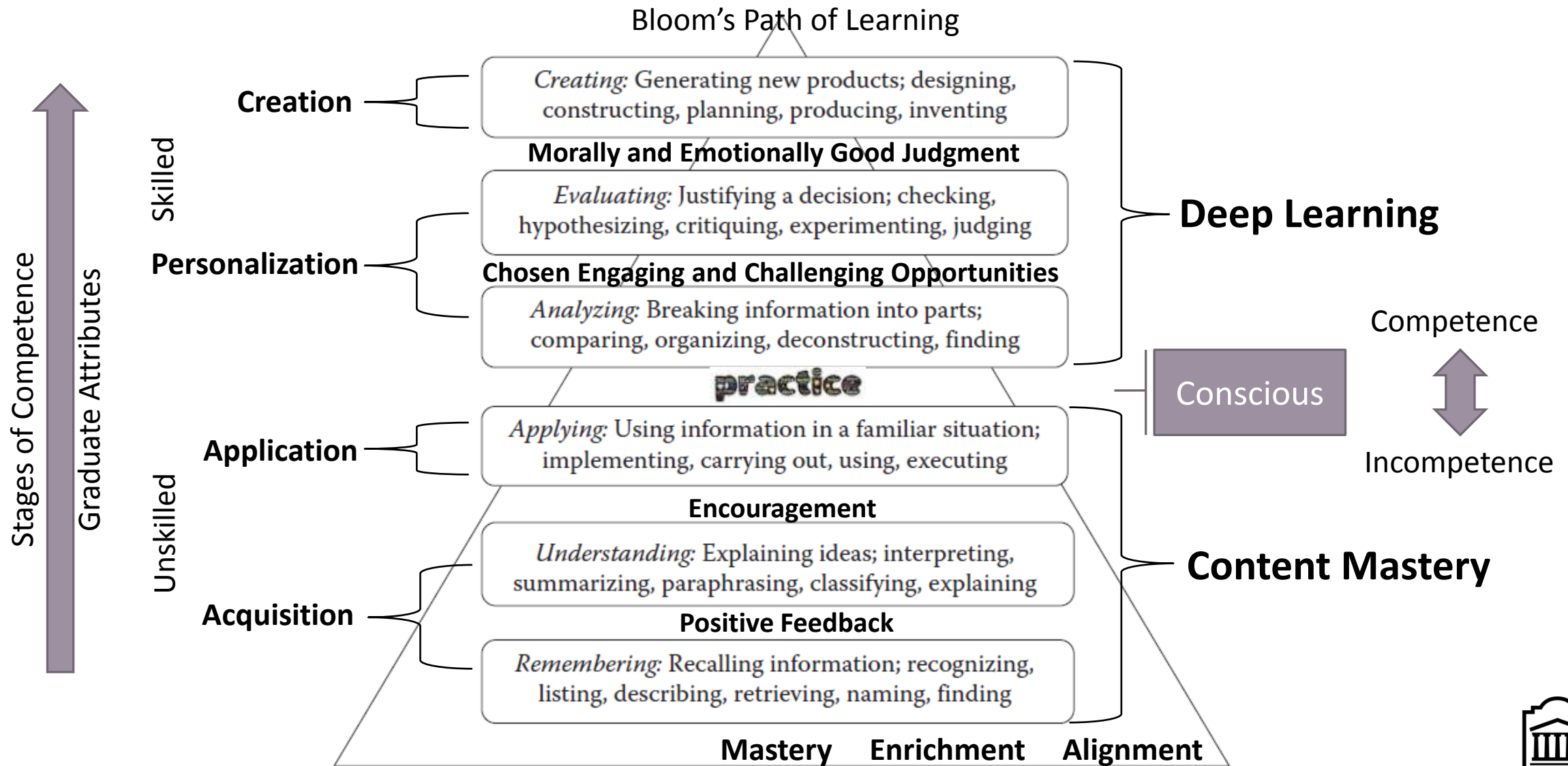
When students leave the school, **what** they should know?

What types of knowledge are currently taught? **Why** they are taught?

How do students understand their experience during their study?

Are pedagogical practises driven by **what** the students do in class or by **what** the instructor does?

How do we integrate new approaches with a minimum student resistance?

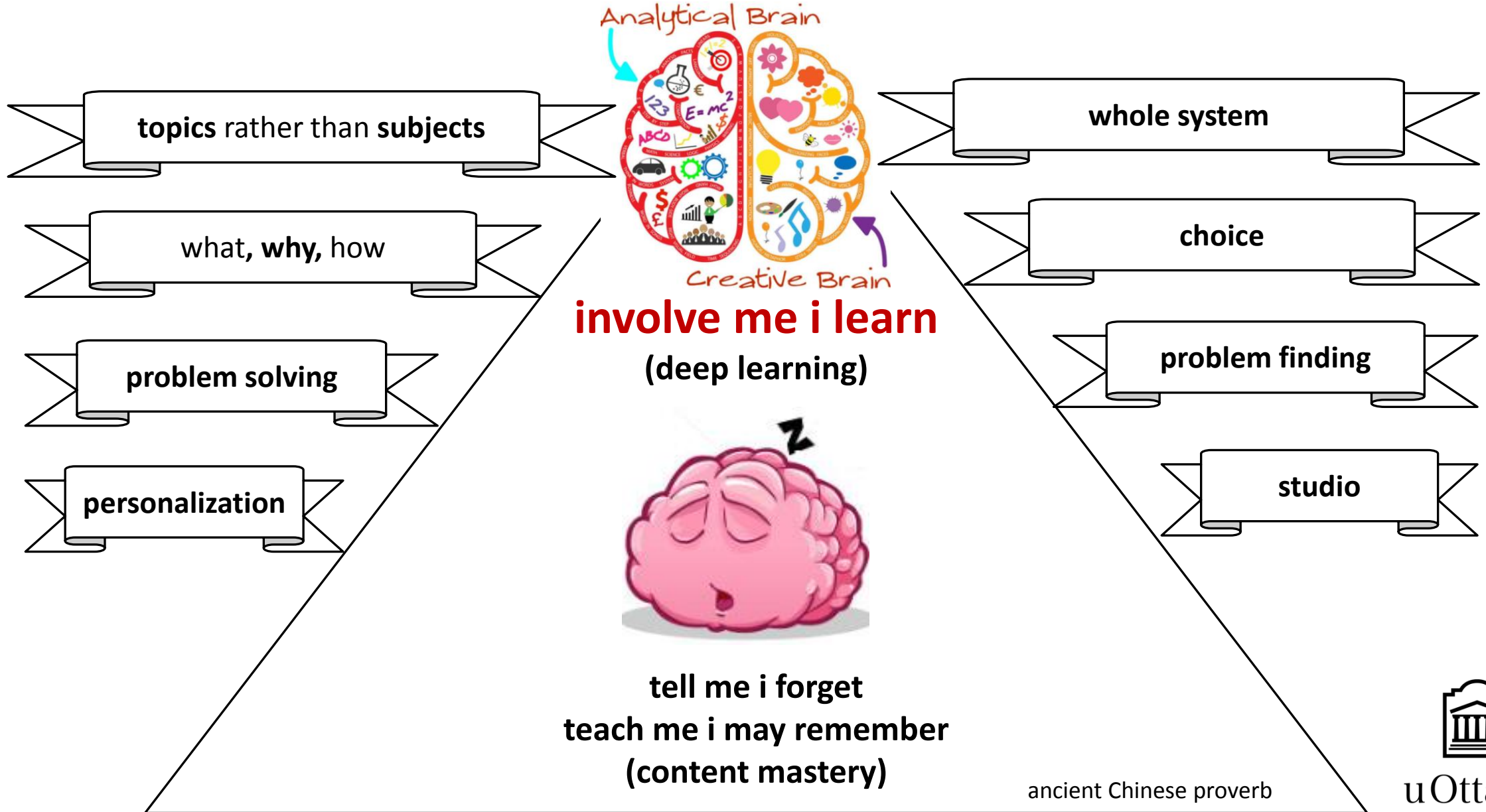


Engineering is a creative social activity; it is about design under constraint.
Profession is work that requires sophisticated skills; the use of judgment; and the art of discretionary leadership.



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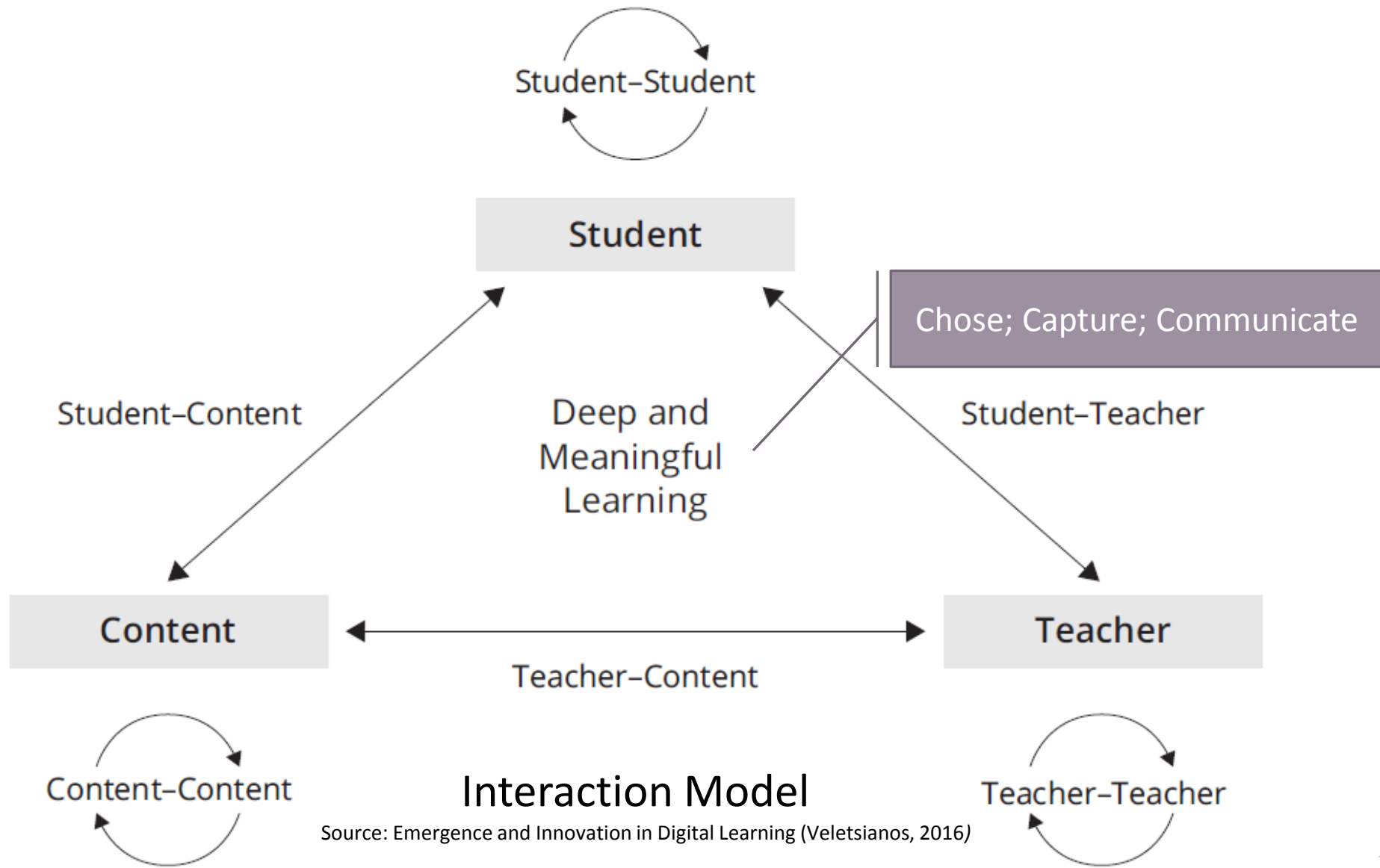


Think Feel Act



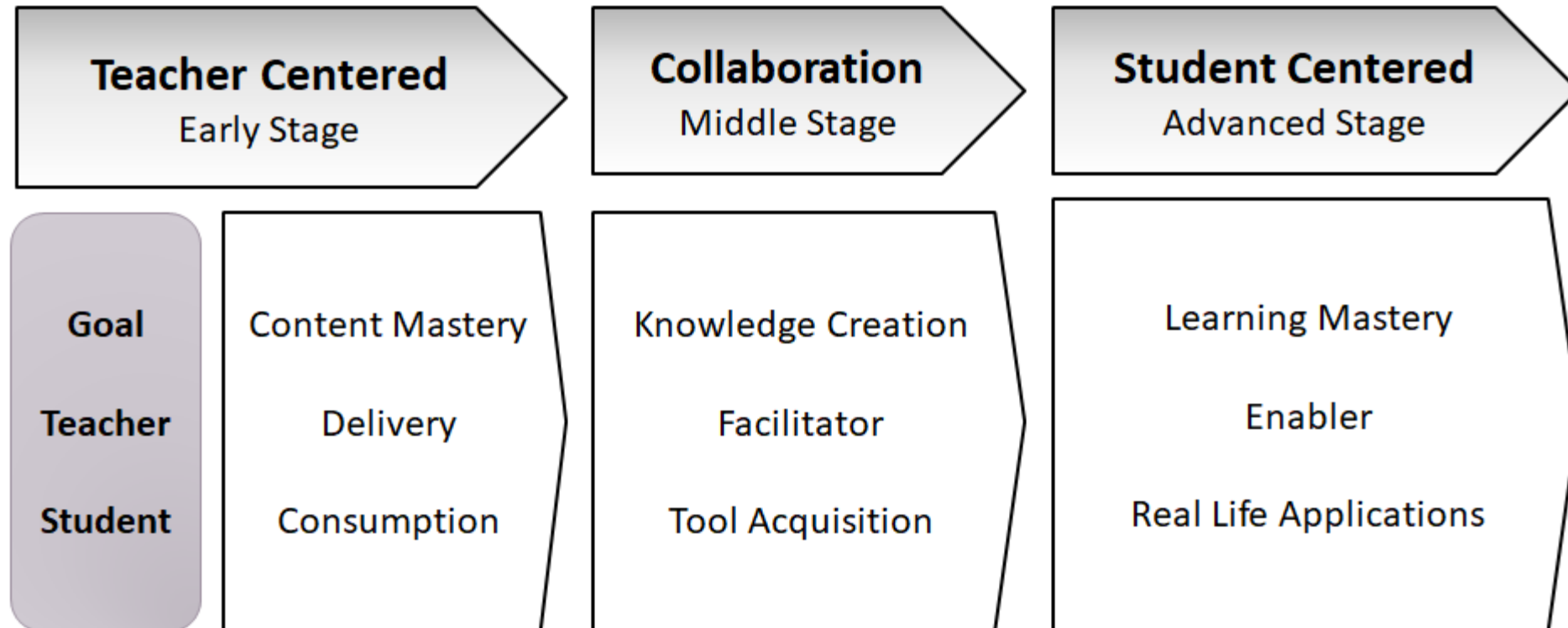
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Digital tools to support the language of reflection

Toward state of flow experience





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The “bucket theory of knowledge”

Course content should not be used as an **end** in itself, but as a **means** of helping students learn how to learn.

Teaching should shift from covering all required content to guiding principles of the learning process.

Grading should not be based on reciting back lecture notes. Sometimes, grading is very degrading for students.



Knowledge Creation

(High-level use of technology)

Analyze data; collaborate with peers and teachers; develop and use simulations, build products; create presentations.

Information Consumption

(Basic use of technology)

Practice skills and procedures; take test or turn in homework; find information in the Internet; write reports, etc.



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Knowledge needed in engineering

Core: Theoretical science- math-based knowledge.

Lifelong self-educate, to meet new problems: Design concepts; criteria and specifications; quantitative data; practical considerations; knowledge of tools and strategies in project management.

Societal skills: Knowledge of values, norms, and context.



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3 Ps of Learning

personalization; participation; productivity

Students learn in many ways, so the challenge for teachers is to discover which approaches help students learn most effectively.

Reflection as a personalized process of informal engagement enables learners to produce results by using real-world contexts, carrying out “whole” tasks, and solving problems as they arise.



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Acquisition to participation to creation

Personalized learning is to get away from the concept of “lesson” by designing topic- case- project-based forms of learning.

Gone are the days when people learned and worked in isolation. Media have transformed learning to collaborative environments.

Through applying learner-centred pedagogy, students gain insights by dealing with real-world questions and problems.



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Learner-centered teaching (LCT)

when students influence the content, activities, and pace of learning

Engage students in the hard work of learning.

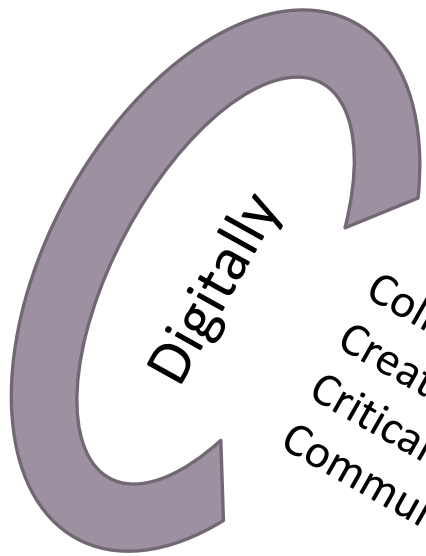
Discuss what's being learned, why it's being learned, and how it can be learned more often than grades.

Encourage students to reflect on what they learn.

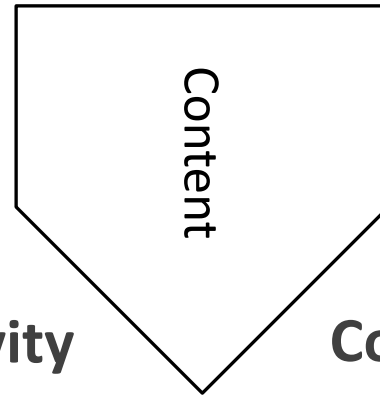
Invite questions to play a more prominent role than answers.

Motivate students by giving them some control over the learning processes.

Promote collaboration.

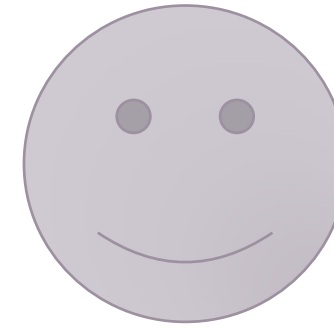


Collaboration
Creativity
Critical Thinking
Communication



Activity

Context



Learning Designers

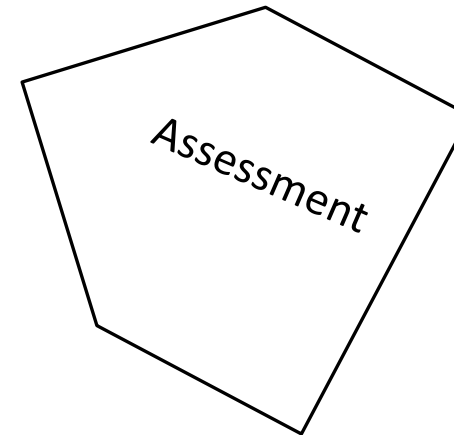
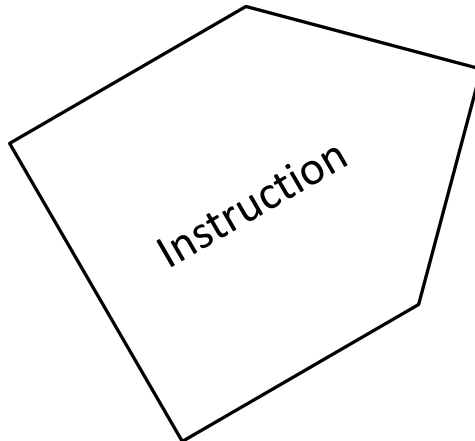
Prior Knowledge

Technology



Choice

Motivation



Experience and Reflection

Learner-centered teaching



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Faculty questions and concerns

What are the characteristics of LCT?

Why would we adopt a LCT?

Can we cover the content in syllabus using LCT?

Can we use LCT when teaching large classes? How?

Are instructors' fears of student resistance to LCT well-founded?

How do we respond to student resistance when using LCT?

Are there effective ways to minimize that resistance?



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Sage on the Stage or Guide on the Side

Studio learning

Team projects and the idea of CDIO

Open-ended problem solving

Learning-by-doing

Engagement in research



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Workshop case: course subject content

ELG3336: Electronics for Mechanical Engineering

Textbook: Principles and Applications of Electrical Engineering

Components: Lectures; Tutorials; Labs.

Course Content:

Operational amplifiers

Semiconductors, diodes, transistors

Digital logic circuits and systems



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Targeting skills and competencies

Critical and inventive thinking

Communication, collaboration and information retrieval skills

Problem finding, defining, and solving

Social and emotional competencies

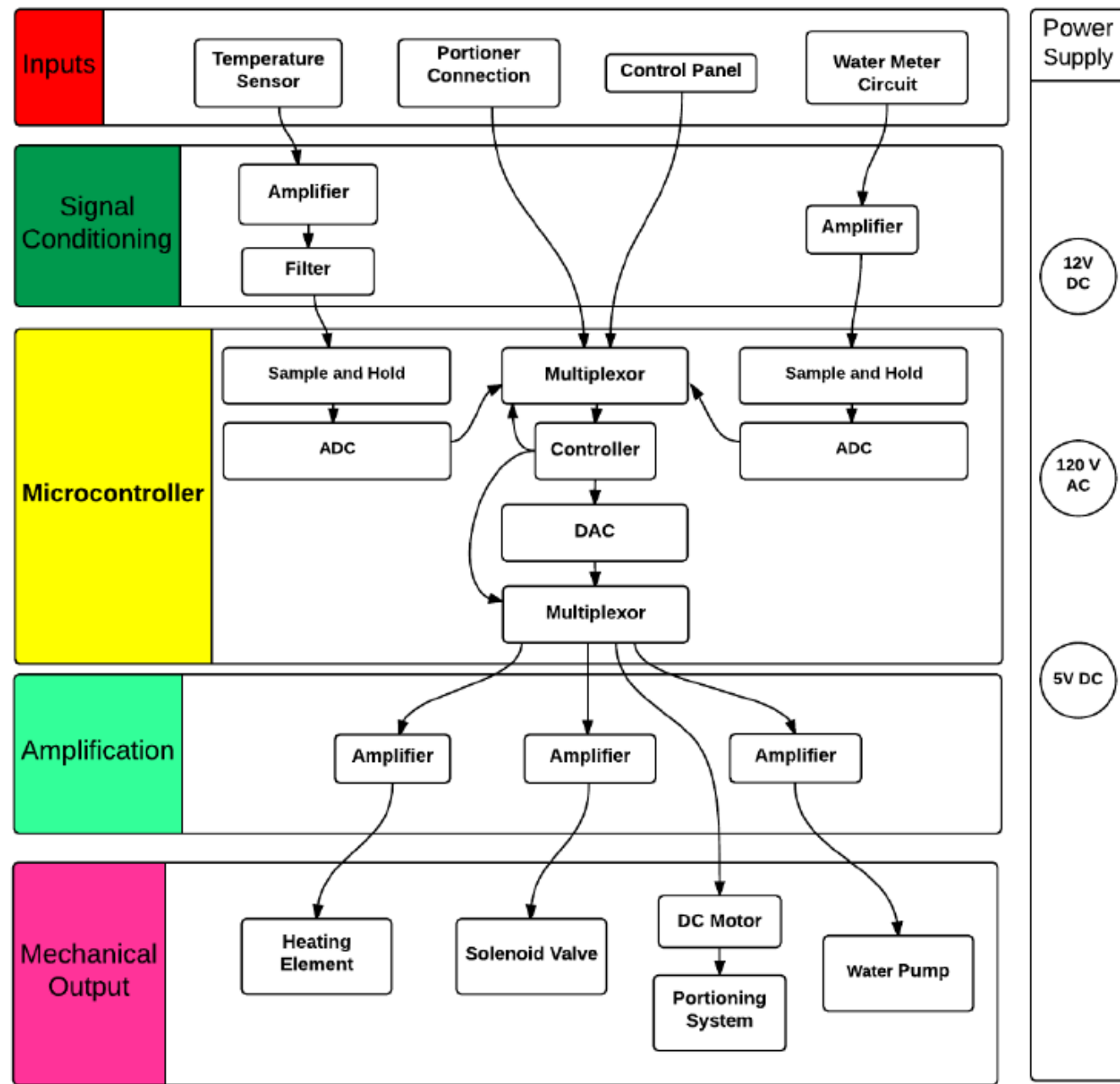
Initiative and creativity basic skills in entrepreneurship

Project management and leadership skills

Writing, presentation, and speaking skills

Ethical , environmental, and sustainability awareness.

A typical “whole” mechatronics system as a “topic-case- project-based” platform for teaching the subject content of ELG3336.





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Realizing competencies

The course subjects can be taught within the context of each layer and component of the whole mechatronics system.

Each student or group of students may identify and define a “mechatronics problem” of their choice.

The problem progresses with open-ended design tasks of each layer and component.



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Realizing competencies

Analysis and design tasks make case for tests and exams.

Project ideas are conceived, designed, implemented, and operated.

Entrepreneurial aspects are explored.

Business plan and design details are written and presented.

Functioning prototype are exhibited.



Learning by Doing: Project Video



Grade 9 . . .



esign your wisdom



Engineering



Knowledge

Engineering

Resources

STEAM+E

GEngineers

Studio

Outreach



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Fostering the state of flow experience

Find out what students know and challenge.

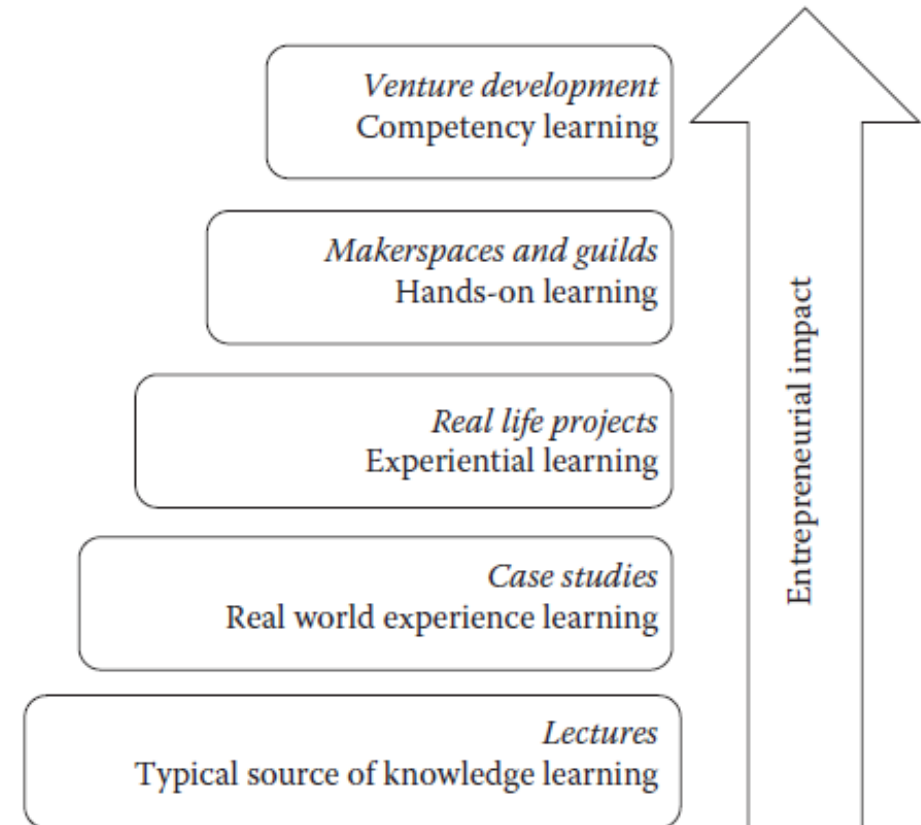
Make assignments relevant to real life applications.

Encourage choice with motivation and engagement in mind.

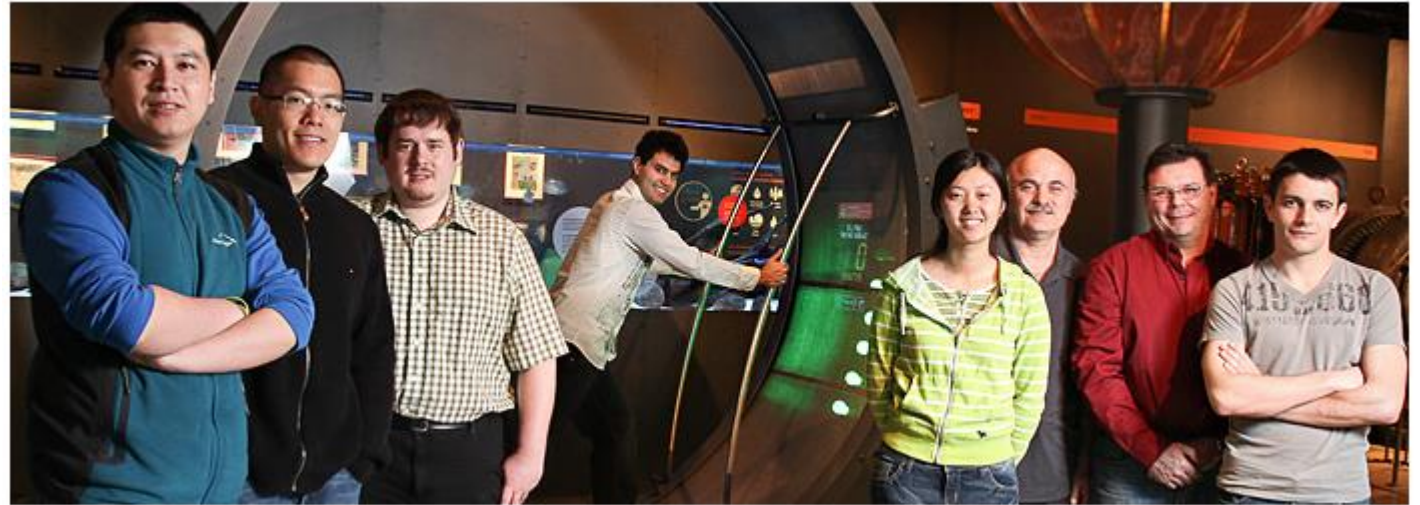
Set clear goals with proper feedback.

Build positive relationship.

Offer hands-on experiences.



A state of flow experience:
human hamster wheel: a
collaborative uOttawa student
project with Canada Science
and Technology Museum



www.
GreenEngineers
.ca

- Home
- Community
- WindLab
- Activities
- Learning
- Reflection
- Campus
- SEEDS

"Greening" is about connecting, integrating, innovating, and collaborating across disciplines and people with sustainability in mind.

A state of flow
experience:
uOttawa SAE Aerospace
March 9, 2018
Florida Air Museum



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Questions

a learning journey from routine and unfeeling to

enlightenment

empowerment

emancipation

entrepreneurial mindset.