Meeting the challenge of teaching the millennial nursing student in a Neuman-based program

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Meeting the Challenge of Teaching the Millennial Nursing Student in a Neuman-based Program

Do your students seem bored and preoccupied? Are you struggling to effectively meet their learning needs? Millennial students enter college with unique characteristics that differ from past generations. They often have short attention spans and lack effective critical thinking, introspection, and face-to-face communication skills. (Wilson, 2005) Although these students are exposed to vast amounts of information more than in previous generations, they have difficulty processing this information with any depth. Millennial students are high stressed, high achievers, and high tech. They also can be characterized as hard working, practical, motivated, and good at multi-tasking. (DeBard, 2004; Knofla, 2007)

Although Millennial students bring their own special challenges to the classroom, faculty has found them enthusiastic and hard working learners. (Gleason, 2008) Research suggests that courses should be designed with clearly written rules, requirements, and grading rubrics. (Elam, Gibson, & Stratton, 2007) A major focus for the teacher must be to hold this students’ interest throughout the learning process. Increased use of active learning, such as case scenarios, video clips, simulations, and real-life situations, has been effective in presenting information face-to-face and on-line that is stimulating, relevant, and applicable. Team learning in the classroom and laboratory setting stimulates cooperation and collaboration. Research also indicates group testing and peer review are effective assessments for this type of learner. (Elam et al.)

Various teaching strategies will be demonstrated including use of real-life scenarios and video clips with audience participation. Classroom assessment that is Neuman-based using case scenarios, simulation, and applied questioning will also be presented using the participants in group testing and peer review. Results of in-class surveys on the outcomes of various active learning strategies will be presented and discussed.

In summary, this presentation will discuss and demonstrate teaching strategies and assessments that have been used successfully to meet the learning needs of the Millennial nursing student in a Neuman-based program.
Meeting the Challenge of Teaching the Millennial Nursing Student in a Neuman-based Program

Outcomes

Participants will

- Recognize the unique learning needs of the Millennial college student.
- Identify effective teaching strategies used with the Millennial nursing student in a Neuman-based program.