



Explanation of How the Student-Centered Classroom Enhances the Delivery of Differentiated Curriculum

The student-centered classroom enhances the delivery of differentiated curriculum in many ways. As stated in module 2, according to the Position Statement of the NAGC, "...education in a democracy must represent the uniqueness of all individuals, the broad range of cultural diversity present in our society, and the similarities and differences in learning characteristics that can be found within any group of students." This is only achieved through differentiation and, I feel, differentiation is only fully achieved in a student-centered classroom. If a classroom is student-centered, the students' needs, interests, and learning styles are the heart of instruction. This helps in the delivery of differentiated curriculum by individualizing the learning experience based upon these needs, interests, and styles. For instance, being that the classroom is student-centered, the teacher evaluates each EP to locate areas of improvement to assist each student with, administers a multiple intelligence inventory to identify each students' learning style, and administers an interest inventory to find out what each student enjoys studying/researching. The teacher then uses this student-centered data to differentiate the curriculum by creating/including multiple means (activities/resources & materials) & measures (products) that accommodate the various needs/interests/styles shown.

Additionally, the student-centered classroom enhances delivery of differentiated curriculum by increasing the students' learning arsenal. What I mean by this is that, when a classroom is student-centered, the teacher takes on the role of facilitator and the student performs the majority of the brainwork/braun. If the teacher does not act as the "know-all/see-all," students then assume the role as teacher & learner, which makes them practice metacognition, which in turn, makes them learn more. As stated in module 5, "When they continuously reflect on their experiences, students find their ideas gaining in complexity and power, and they develop increasingly strong abilities to integrate new information." I feel constructivist principles are part of a student-centered classroom and when the teacher helps the student learn and reflect, this helps shape/enhance the different curriculum the students choose/teacher utilizes. When students use different techniques and reflect upon them, they too can differentiate their learning by integrating the most powerful abilities/learning skills that were most effective at helping their ideas grow in complexity.

