



Educational Methods

Because all individuals have different ways of learning, it is important to utilize a variety of educational formats or methods which will help ensure that learning transfer takes place.

Faculty should remember to be realistic in terms of what barriers they may face when determining the best methods to use. For example, some methods may be too time consuming or too expensive to utilize. In short, it may be difficult to utilize the most effective method for the situation due to circumstances beyond the control of faculty. That said, the list below provides important and simple strategies that you can use to elevate your presentation(s). Remember that a live lecture likely becomes much more effective when it is case based and involves interaction with the audience in the form of question and answer.

Don't forget to visit ACOEM's [Teaching Academy](#) for a series of videos that will help you improve the quality and effectiveness of your presentation(s).

Type of Learner	Description	Strategies
Visual	Visual learners retain information more effectively when visual aids are used, such as, pictures, images, film clips, colors, and diagrams. They're also good at understanding visual data presented in maps, charts and graphs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use visual aids - most other learners will benefit from visual elements as well.• Provide visual analogies and metaphors to help with imagery.• Substitute words for colors and pictures.• Ask the students to write down explanations and take notes because this entails looking at your presentation or visualizing what you're presenting.• Color or emphasizes key points in text.• Avoid using large blocks of text.• Use storytelling to help with visualization.• Ask learners to visualize using phrases such as, "Picture this", "What you would do."
Aural	Aural learners respond to sound, music, recordings, rhymes, rhythms etc. They remember conversations well and music causes an emotional response in them.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Encourage your students to participate in discussions.• Get students to pair up and explain concepts to each other.• Encourage problem-solving aloud.• Suggest rereading their notes back to themselves when they get home.• Use <u>mnemonic devices</u> and rhyming.• If you are explaining a story, play relevant sounds from your computer.



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Verbal	Verbal learners favor using words and linguistic skills - in speech and in writing, such as, reading, writing, listening, or speaking. They like word games, puns, and rhymes etc. and are often strong public speakers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use verbal teaching and writing activities.• Ask them to discuss or present.• Use acronyms or mnemonic devices.• Role-playing, for example, <u>practicing elevator pitches</u> or interactions.• Ask them to teach members of the class certain material.• Suggest they reread and rewrite their notes, including summaries.• Incorporate quizzes/questions.• Show them or provide them with lists of key words.• Providing these learners with a combination of information in a variety of verbal ways can assist their learning, for example, they may initially read about a concept, afterwards they listen to an audio to support what has been read, then they write notes and finally they partner up with someone and discuss the topic.
Social	Social learners process information by interacting with and relating to others. They enjoy working with others and are often strong leaders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Be inquisitive and ask them what they think about a concept/topic/idea.• Ask them to bounce ideas off each other and compare their ideas with others.• Allow them to discuss and share stories.• Include group work.• Engage in role-play.

The above list was taken from the following website which also includes strategies for other types of learners:

Virtual Speech. (April 17, 2018). *Teaching Strategies for the 8 Different Learning Styles*. <https://virtualspeech.com/blog/teaching-strategies-different-learning-styles>.