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Spring 2022 NDSU Virtual Faculty Luncheon

Creative Pedagogy: Incorporating Zest in the Classroom



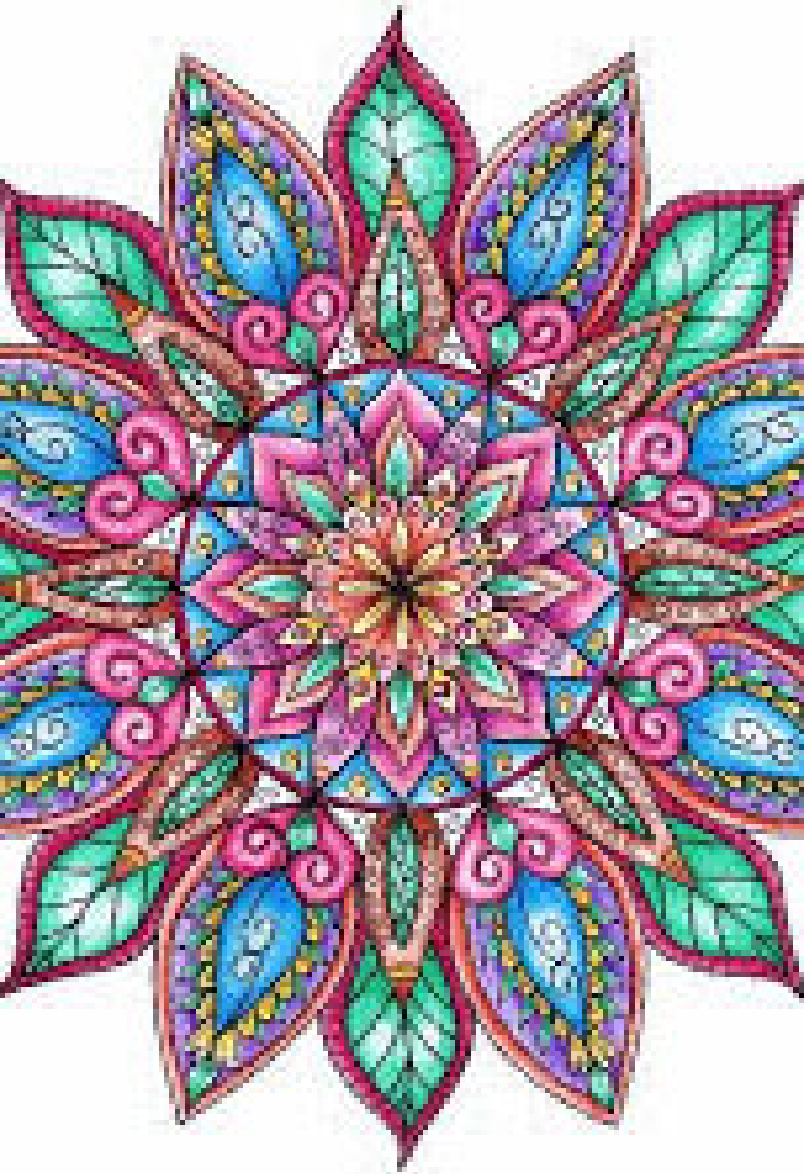
Objectives

- Attendees will understand the benefits of creative pedagogy
- Attendees will review ways to implement creativity into courses
- Attendees will explore how faculty across campus are using creativity in their courses
- BONUS: Attendees will practice a creative strategy that can be implemented in the classroom
- Opening Question: What comes to mind when you hear the word 'creativity?'



What is Creativity?

- What is creativity?
 - The relationship between a human being and the mysteries of inspiration
 - Elizabeth Gilbert (Big Magic)
- Kolb's Experiential Learning Cycle
 - Concrete Experience
 - Reflective Observation
 - Abstract Conceptualization
 - Active Experimentation



Why Incorporate Creativity?

- STUDENT ENGAGEMENT!
- Incorporates cognitive process and affective experience to deepen learning
- Establishes and deepens interpersonal connection
- Increases self-awareness and empathy
- Cultivates reflexivity
- Enhances critical thinking and problem-solving skills
- Promotes risk taking
- Models healthy use of openness, flexibility, and spontaneity



Incorporate Creativity When:

- Facilitating difficult dialogue
 - Introducing abstract concepts
 - Teaching specific skills
 - Exploring and creating new ideas
 - Teambuilding for the entire classroom
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- In what additional situations might creativity be helpful in the classroom?



Examples of Creative Strategies in the Classroom

- Improv/Icebreaker Activities
- Community-Based Learning
- Wisdom Jar
- Art-Based Activities (i.e. collage)
- Movement (i.e. spectrum responses)
- Metaphor
- Kahoot Quizzes
- Creative Assignments
 - Create Your Own Adventure/Assignment Menu
 - Multimedia Submission Options
 - Creative Projects



Word Collage

- Give each student a blank piece of paper, or have them take out a piece of paper
- Prompt students to write words on the piece of paper that are associated with the topic
- In pairs or small groups have students compare and contrast their word collages and begin engaging in a larger discussion about the topic
- Example topics: Self-care, global warming, popular culture
- Prompt: Write words that come to mind when thinking about _____ including feelings, fears, limitations, advantages, behaviors, etc. Whatever comes to mind.



Wisdom Jar

- At the end of the semester:
 - Students are provided a jar and slips of paper
 - On the slips of paper, students write the following:
 - Advice for future students
 - What they learned
 - Successes and challenges experienced
 - Things that aided in their success
- At the beginning of the semester:
 - New students read and share the wisdom from the previous students



Need Help Getting Started?

- Jones, J., & Kelley, M. A. (2013). *Improv Ideas 2: A New Book of Games and Lists for the Classroom and Beyond*. Meriwether Publishing Ltd: Colorado Springs, CO.
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Closing Discussion

- How have you implemented creativity in the classroom?
- What are barriers for implementing creativity in the classroom?
- Were there any creative strategies you learned today that you will attempt to implement with in classes? Which ones?
- How have students responded to creativity in the classroom?
- What are you taking away from this time together?

References

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