

STRENGTHENING CAPACITY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE
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SESSION 14: EDUCATING MILLENNIALS



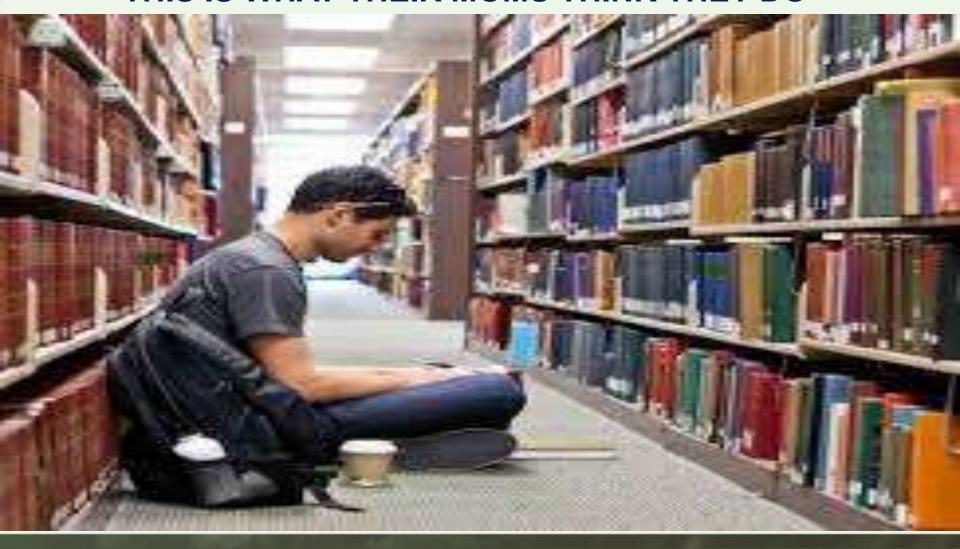
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THIS IS WHAT THE SOCIETY THINKS THEY DO



THIS IS WHAT THEIR MOMS THINK THEY DO



THIS IS WHAT THEIR TEACHERS THINK THEY DO



THIS IS WHAT THEY ACTUALLY DO



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Who are the Millennials?

Generation

- Baby Boomers
- Gen X
- Cuspars
- Millennials

Born

- 1946 1964
- 1965 1980
- 1975 1980
- 1981 1999



Accept this: Students have changed

- Grew up with the Internet Versions 1.0 to
- Always connected
 - instant & text messaging
 - social networking websites
 - personal media
- Have Information on demand
- Good at Multi-Tasking / Multiple formats
- Pampered by Parents



Understanding Millennial Student Attributes

- For them "Computers are not technology." Computers, the Internet, and the WWW are as much a part of Millennials' lives Smart Phones have become an additional finger...
- Doing is more important that knowing. Knowledge is no longer perceived to be the ultimate goal. Results and actions are considered more important than the accumulation of facts."
- "Learning more closely resembles Nintendo than logic.
 Nintendo symbolizes a trial-and-error approach to solving problems; losing is the fastest way to mastering a game because losing represents learning."

Understanding Millennial Student Attributes

- "Multitasking is a way of life." Students are comfortable engaging
 in several activities simultaneously. Working on homework with
 music in the background while talking or texting on their cell phone
 is typical of how Millennials get through the day.
- "There is zero tolerance for delays." Millennials were raised in a just-in-time, service-oriented culture. They expect and demand quick turn around in today's 24x7 culture and do not easily accept delays.
- "Consumer and creator are blurring. In a file-sharing, cut-and-paste world, distinctions between creator, owner, and consumer of information are fading. The operative assumption is often that if something is digital, it is everyone's property"

STRATEGIES TO ENGAGE MILLENNIALS EFFECTIVELY*

Based on the Article by Mary Bart, The Five R's of Engaging Millennial Students available at http://www.facultyfocus.com/articles/teaching-and-learning/the-five-rs-of-engaging-millennial-students/

Research-based methods: Research suggests
 Millennials prefer a variety of active learning
 methods.

When they are not interested in something, their attention quickly shifts elsewhere.

Interestingly, many of the components of their ideal learning environment – less lecture, use of multimedia, collaborating with peers – are some of the same techniques research has shown to be effective.

2. Relevance: Millennials have grown up being able to Google anything they want to know, therefore they do not typically value information for information's sake.

As a result, the professor's role is shifting from disseminating information to helping students apply the information.

One of the greatest challenges for teachers is to connect course content to the current culture and make learning outcomes and activities relevant.

3. Rationale: Unlike Boomers who were raised in a more authoritarian manner in which they more readily accept the chain of command, Millennials were raised in a non-authoritarian manner and are more likely to comply with course policies when teachers provide them with a rationale for specific policies and assignments.

4. Relaxed: Millennials prefer a less formal learning environment in which they can informally interact with the professor and one another.

- <u>5. Rapport:</u> Millennials are extremely relational. They are more central to their parents' lives than previous generations and are used to having the adults in their lives show great interest in them.
- They appreciate it when professors show that same interest, and they seem to be more willing to pursue learning outcomes when instructors connect with them on a personal level.

Need to be Guiding Hands





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