

TEACHING TECHNIQUES FOR WINNING THE CONFIDENCE OF ACADEMICALLY WEAKER STUDENTS OF PROFESSIONAL COURSES

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Abstract

In the day to day teaching work, the teachers in professional courses institutions in India come across a variety of student behaviors. Some students find studies interesting and absorbing. For some students find studies totally difficult, boring and are unable to concentrate, some students excel in studies or in a particular subject, while others are just average or below average. The inadequacy considerably affects the achievement of students in their works. It hinders the active involvement of learners in teaching- learning process which is so very vital for effective learning. Against this background, the main aim of this paper is to identify the reasons for lack of interest in studies on the part of academically weaker students in professional courses Institutions and to offer appropriate suggestions for creating interest and motivate them on studies.

Key Words: Professional Courses, Teaching - Learning Process, Achievement Motivation, Semantic Barriers.

Introduction

In the day to day teaching work teachers in professional courses institutions in India come across a variety of student behaviors. Some students find studies interesting and absorbing. Some find studies totally boring and are unable to concentrate, some students excel in studies or in a particular subject while others are just average or below average.

The inadequacy considerably affects the achievement of students in their works. It hinders the active involvement of learners in teaching- learning process which is so very vital for effective learning.

It is common misconception among the teachers that once students have been given initial impetus there is no need to sustain that because they would remain motivated throughout. Therefore motivation is an essential concomitant variable of all instructional activities.

Objectives of the Study

1. To identify the reasons for lack of interest in studies on the part of weaker students in professional courses institutions.
2. To make appropriate suggestions and techniques for winning the confidence of professional courses students and to generate the interest of the students in Indian professional Institutions

Methodology

The present study is more related to manage the teaching – learning process, plans, strategies, and techniques for creating the interest of the professional courses students in India. The necessary information on managing teaching – learning process was so collected from the primary and secondary sources. Primary data helps the researchers to provide the first hand and reliable data. Economy, quickness and strength maintained in data with the help of secondary analyses. In this study both structured and unstructured techniques were adopted to collect primary information. The

researchers conducted interview with a wide range of engineering and management students and teachers in Indian universities and institutions. The technique of observation also used for primary data collection. The secondary data is collected from the published records, manuals, books, journals and periodicals.

Motivation

Motivation is one of the important factors for higher level of academic achievement of the students. It is concerned with personal energy directed towards the attainment of particular goal.

Achievement motivation (n/ACH)

Achievement motivation is concerned with activities undertaken by students to set for themselves high standards of academic excellence and achieve the same. Learners with high n/ACH tend to have high but realistic aspirations in relation to class room learning, performance tasks, occupational goals and reveal greater persistence in achievement situation. The following are some of the important characteristics of professional courses students with high achievement motive.

- Concerned more with achieving than avoiding failure.
- Give attention to the realistic possibilities of success.
- Sharply differentiate situations in which they have some control from situations where results largely depend upon chance and have definite preferences for involvement in situations where they have some control.
- Like to make independent judgments based on their own evaluation and experience rather than rely on the opinion of others.
- Show greater anticipation of the future and prefer larger rewards in the future to small rewards in the present.

Teaching Techniques for Winning the Confidence of Professional Courses Students

From the time, one new instructor enters the profession, one should cease sly strengthen the efforts in this regard. Following are some of the practical techniques/tips to prove himself/herself as good lecturer.

1. A teacher in professional courses or technical should always prepare well and organize the topic of discussion in advance.
2. Direct dictation of the lesson from the text book should be avoided.
3. A professional courses teacher should not appear shaky or confused when doubts are expressed by the students of management or engineering or technical whoever may be.
4. Many times the teachers and instructors in Indian educational Institutions find it difficult to accept the fact that no one can have total knowledge of every aspect of a subject. But, this being a fact, it is not wrong to accept that he or she does not know certain things.
5. The points for discussion of a topic should be remembered and collated by the teachers and he should have a clear idea, in his mind of the structure and contents of his lecture even before he enters the class room.
6. A class can be made lively and interesting by frequent use of demonstrative techniques including audio- visual aids. Management students should compulsory be exposed to such demonstrative techniques through which knowledge gets imprinted in their minds.
7. The teacher should avoid emphasizing his own imitations.
8. In order to win the confidence of the professional courses students, it is also essential to acknowledge the performance of an intelligent student.
9. It is also essential for management or engineering teacher to spend an hour or two hours with every student once in a while to enquire about their difficulties pertaining to their studies as well as personal matters.

10. A management or engineering course teacher should always and at all times be ready accessible to the students.
11. Perhaps, the most important single factor in the development of a healthy teacher- student relationship is faith the students have in their teacher.
12. Small action of a teacher which reveals sensitivity go on long way in creating a profound impact on the minds of students. On the other hand, lack of sensitivity will have an adverse effect.
13. Developing a linking for the profession is an essential prerequisite for its success.
14. It is the responsibility of teaching community that give the necessary protection to the vulnerable student in the present day set up. Universities or colleges or educational institutions can be compared to temples/ churches/ masques, so the teacher should provide good learning to the students.

Teaching Techniques for Generating the Interest of Professional Students on Studies

The following are the some of the reasons for the lack of interest in studies on the part of academically weaker students in Indian professional institutions.

1. Conventional teaching styles of teachers.
2. Wrong choice of courses chosen
3. Communication gap.
4. Lack of interest on the part of the teacher
5. Inadequate library and laboratory facilities in the institute.
6. Improper Guidance.

The following are some of the techniques for generating interest in studies amongst the academically weaker students are discussed below.

1. To Apply Innovative Teaching Style and Aids

It is observed that the majority of teachers in management and engineering or higher educational institutions in India are adopting the conventional teaching style “Chalk & Talk” but conventional method of teaching is not found very effective especially in case of weaker students in colleges or universities in India.

In such cases, the authors suggested that the teacher can make use of various types of audio-visual aids such as OHP transparencies, slides and films strips, video programs, charts and modes. The use of audio- visual aids play an important role in modern day teaching and help the teachers in creating and maintaining interest of learners including the weaker ones thereby making the process teaching – learning more effective in Indian Educational Institutions.

2. To Overcome Semantic Barriers

It is found that majority of students hailing from rural background understand only the local languages like Telugu, Hindi, Urdu, Malayalam, Tamil, Bengali, Odessa etc., as a result they are unable to understand the subject matter especially in management and engineering disciplines because of these books are available in English version only. Sometimes the teachers especially expatriates cannot effectively communicate in their local colloquial language, which results in a communication gap. It is suggested that in order to overcome this communication barrier, the University / College teacher should use simple language to the extent.

3. To Communicate on the Part of Teacher

For generating the interest of the students in studies, taking of interest on the part of teacher himself is a prerequisite. The University / College teacher should set an example by his full

commitment for the welfare of students. This will not only generate a liking for the teacher and subject by the students but will also motivate them to work hard and strive for an academic excellence.

4. To Provide Adequate Library and Laboratory Facilities

It is also essential on the part of institutes in India to keep library and laboratory facilities up-to date. The libraries of these institutions should be provided with latest editions and the laboratories should have the latest equipment and reagents and also that too in working order. This will help the academically weaker students in class room in a better way.

5. To Make the Provisions for Reward

The professional courses students, who excel in their studies should be properly recognized by way of giving various rewards, praise them in academic functions, social recognition, etc. This will also encourage these students to do well in their studies.

6. To Give Feedback

It is observed that majority of teachers in educational institution are not giving students feedback. Therefore, it is suggested that the teachers should give the feedback to the students about their performance at regular intervals. A satisfactory feedback will all ways encourage students especially the weaker ones to perform still better.

Conclusion

It is suggested to the managements of the technical, engineering, management institutions, universities, colleges and other higher educational institutes in India to organize a week - end program, once in a month for their teachers/ instructors especially the teaching/ graduate assistants on the real practical hints, tricks or tips for winning the confidence of students in Indian professional courses institutions by inviting the subject experts in psychology and to cater the academic needs and interest of the students in the changing the educational scenario.

It is also good idea to arrive early, because then the lecturer can build comfort with the environment by laying out materials, arranging chairs, and greeting each student who enters the room. The preliminary minutes can set a tone that lasts into the next hour.

The effective teaching involves a lot of communication. The communication is essentially through the use of a language. The non-verbal communication and body language are the means and ways for an effective classroom teaching and to win the confidence. If the lecture begins well, it is apt to end well. It is very important to state in this context that every teacher, before the class is concluded, give a quick summary (3 to 4 minutes). The timing should be so planned that you never miss the all-important points discussed in the lecture in summary part.

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