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# Andragogy vs Pedagogy: Teaching the Adult Learner in an Online Environment

Tonina Aragona  
*CUNY Hostos Community College*

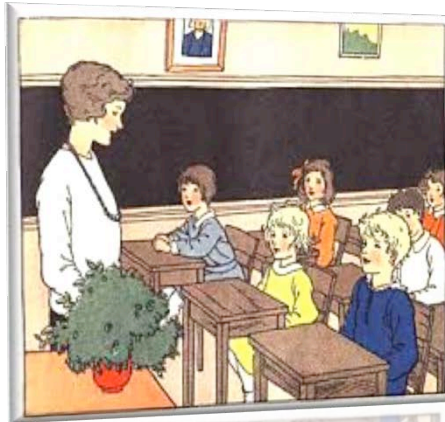
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# ANDRAGOGY VS PEDAGOGY: TEACHING THE ADULT LEARNER IN AN ONLINE ENVIRONMENT

**Tonina Aragona**

Adjunct Lecturer/Education Department

Hostos Community College

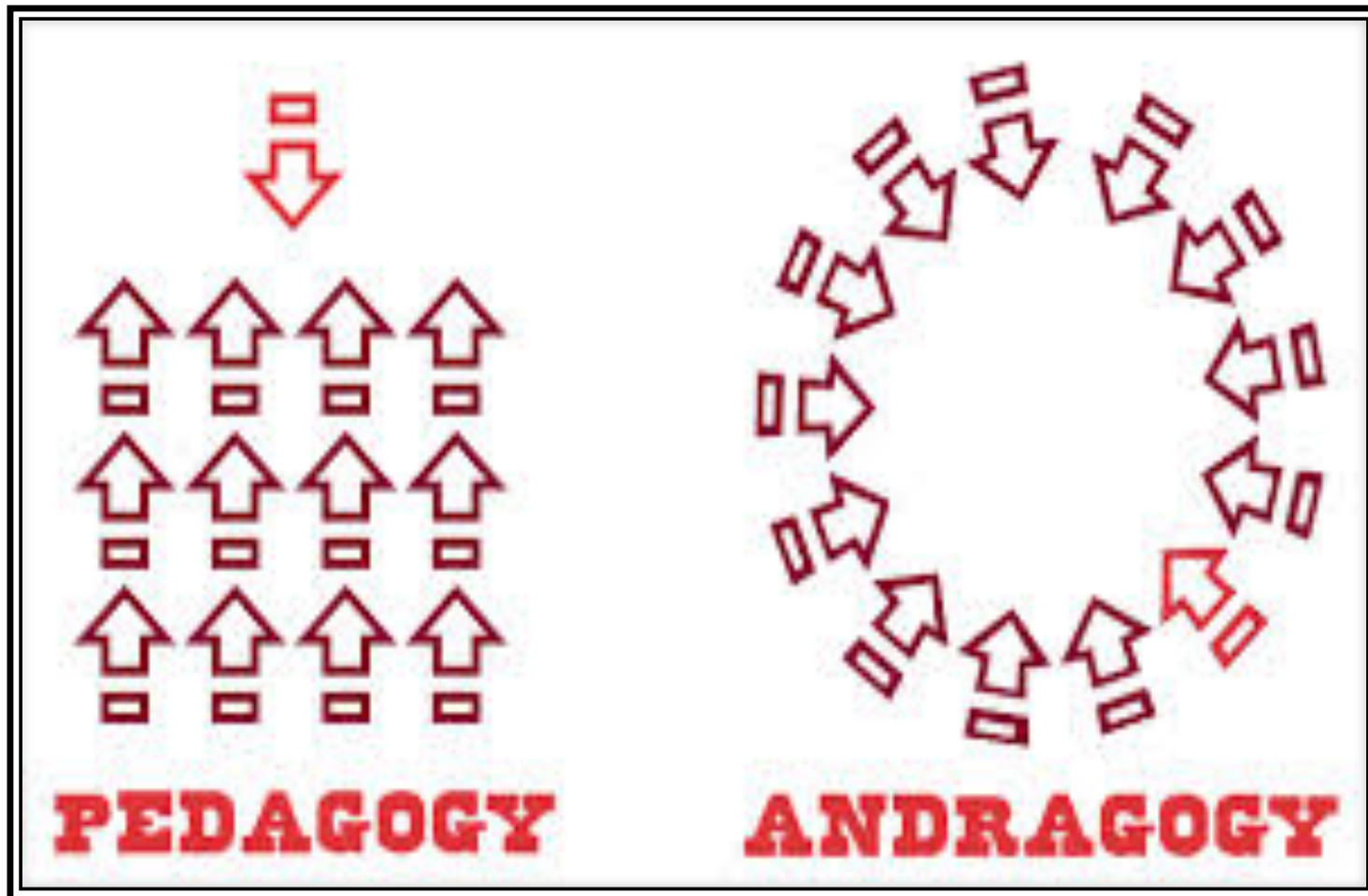
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# QUESTIONS

- 1. Do adults and children learn differently?
  - What is pedagogy?
  - What is andragogy?
  
- 2. What are the implications for the use of pedagogy and/or andragogy in online learning?
  
- 3. Does the online instructor maintain the same role as the face-to-face instructor?
  
- 4. What is the role of the adult learner?



# LEARNING MODELS



# OVERVIEW

- Pedagogy

- Greek origin meaning: leader of child
- Art and science of teaching children

- Andragogy

- Greek origin meaning: leader of adult
- Art and science of assisting adults to learn



# THE THEORY OF ANDRAGOGY

- Malcolm Knowles introduced the theory of andragogy to the U.S. circa 1970.
- Six main adult learning principles
  - Learner's need to know
  - Self-concept of the learner
  - Prior experience of the learner
  - Readiness to learn
  - Orientation to learning
  - Motivation to learn



• (Knowles, Holton, & Swanson, 2012, p. 3)



# ASSUMPTIONS OF THE PEDAGOGICAL MODEL

- Teacher is main decision maker:
  - What will be learned
  - How it will be learned
  - When it will be learned
- Learner assumptions:
  - Know only what teacher teaches
  - Dependent on teacher for learning needs
  - Few prior experiences
  - Ready to learn only what the teacher decides
  - Motivated by external reasons
    - Grades, parental pressures, etc.



2/29/2014

– (Knowles et al., 2012, pp. 60-62)



# THE ROLE OF THE TEACHER IN PEDAGOGY

- Provides learners with learning objectives.
- Instructs by telling, describing, or demonstrating.
- Provides lots of student practice with feedback.
- Assesses learners to determine if objectives are met.
- Allocates time for learners to do independent practice.

○ (Chaplin, 2013, p. 65)





# THE ROLE OF THE FACILITATOR IN ANDRAGOGY

- Process Manager and Designer
- Assist in relationship building
- Assess needs
- Involve students in planning
- Link learners to resources
- Encourage student initiatives
  - (Knowles et al., 2012 p. 260)



# THE ROLE OF THE LEARNER IN PEDAGOGY

- Obedient
- Follows directions
- Submissive
- Listens to lectures
- Takes notes
- Asks teacher questions
- Expects teacher to answer questions
- Memorizes information
- Takes tests to prove comprehension of new information



○ (Chapin, 2013)



# THE ROLE OF LEARNER IN ANDRAGOGY

- Self-directs the learning process
- Sets own learning objective and goals
- Collaborates with facilitator and group members
- Works independently
- Creates own questions
- Engages in research to answer own questions
- Relies on prior experiences for the acquisition of new information
- Demands relevance in the learning process
- Expects to apply newly acquired information



# ONLINE LEARNING

- **Why do learners choose online learning?**
  - Access
  - Convenience
  - Flexibility



# ANDRAGOGY AND ONLINE LEARNING



2/23/2014

## ○ Both:

- Decrease learner's dependency on the educator
- Assist learner to access resources
- Assist learner to increase responsibility
- Encourage learner to define learning objectives
- Use experience as the foundation and motivator for learning
- Encourage collaboration among other learners
- Offer a self-reflexive, self-directed, and non-authoritarian environment
- Facilitate problem posing and problem solving
  - (Samaroo et al., 2013, pp. 83-84)



# Tips for Teaching Online



- Create an e-learning culture.
- Plan stimulating activities.
- Encourage participation and group interaction.
- Maintain online presence.
- Provide timely feedback.
- Assure relevance in course work.
- Promote problem-solving skills.



# Preparing the Adult Learner

- Re-learning to Learn
- Responsibility Awareness
- Share in the Planning
- Identify the Adult Learner Role
  - Self-directed
  - Independent
  - Proactive
  - Logical
  - Problem-solver
  - Inquirer
  - (Knowles et al., 2012)



# Conclusion

- Be Mindful of the Theory of Andragogy
- Transition from Instructor-led to Student-led Learning
- Offer Collaborative and Interactive Activities
- Make Material Relevant

▶ (Conrad & Donaldson, 2012; Knowles et al., 2012)





# Discussion

- What changes can you make in your role of online instructor?
- What type of online activities can help learners become more self-directed and independent?
- How will you prepare your adult learners for the online experience?



# Thank You!

- Thank you for your attention!!!
- Your feedback is very important...please feel free to email me.
- **TONINA ARAGONA**
  - [taragona@hostos.cuny.edu](mailto:taragona@hostos.cuny.edu)



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