
New Times Demand New Ways of Teaching and Learning

Recent research builds a powerful case against what used to be accepted “truths” about teaching, learning, and technology. First, there is strong evidence that traditional models of teaching and learning, traditional definitions of technology effectiveness do not work.

In place of these old assumptions, researchers are citing new ways of looking at teaching and learning that promote:



engaged, meaningful learning and collaboration involving challenging and real-life tasks; and



technology as a tool for learning, communication and collaboration .

Today’s workplaces and communities – and tomorrow’s – have tougher requirements than ever before. They need citizens who can think critically and strategically to solve problems. These individuals must learn in a rapidly changing environment and build knowledge taken from numerous sources and different perspectives. They must understand systems in diverse contexts, and collaborate locally and around the globe.

The new workplace requirements for learning are not compatible with instruction that assumes the teacher is the information giver and the student a passive recipient.

The new requirements are at odds with testing programs that assess skills that are useful only in school.
