

Students and student-centred learning

– what it means for us and what we expect of it?

By The European Students Union

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Talk to me ... and I will forget
Show me ... and I will remember
Involve me ... and I will understand
Step back ... and I will act

Confucius

Let's define

Student-Centred Learning

represents both a **mindset and a culture** within a given higher education institution and is a learning approach which is broadly related to, and supported by, constructivist theories of learning. It is characterised by **innovative methods** of teaching which aim to **promote learning** in communication with teachers and other learners and which **take students seriously as active participants** in their own learning, fostering transferable skills such as problem-solving, critical thinking and reflective thinking.

So, what the SCL is not?

- **Problem based learning is the same as SCL**
- **SCL is not suitable for all academic fields**
- **Due to SCL students learn very little subject-matter**
- **Not all teachers can teach in student-centred way**
- **SCL requires higher amount of resources**
- **SCL undermines the teaching profession**
- **Students have more work to do in SCL**

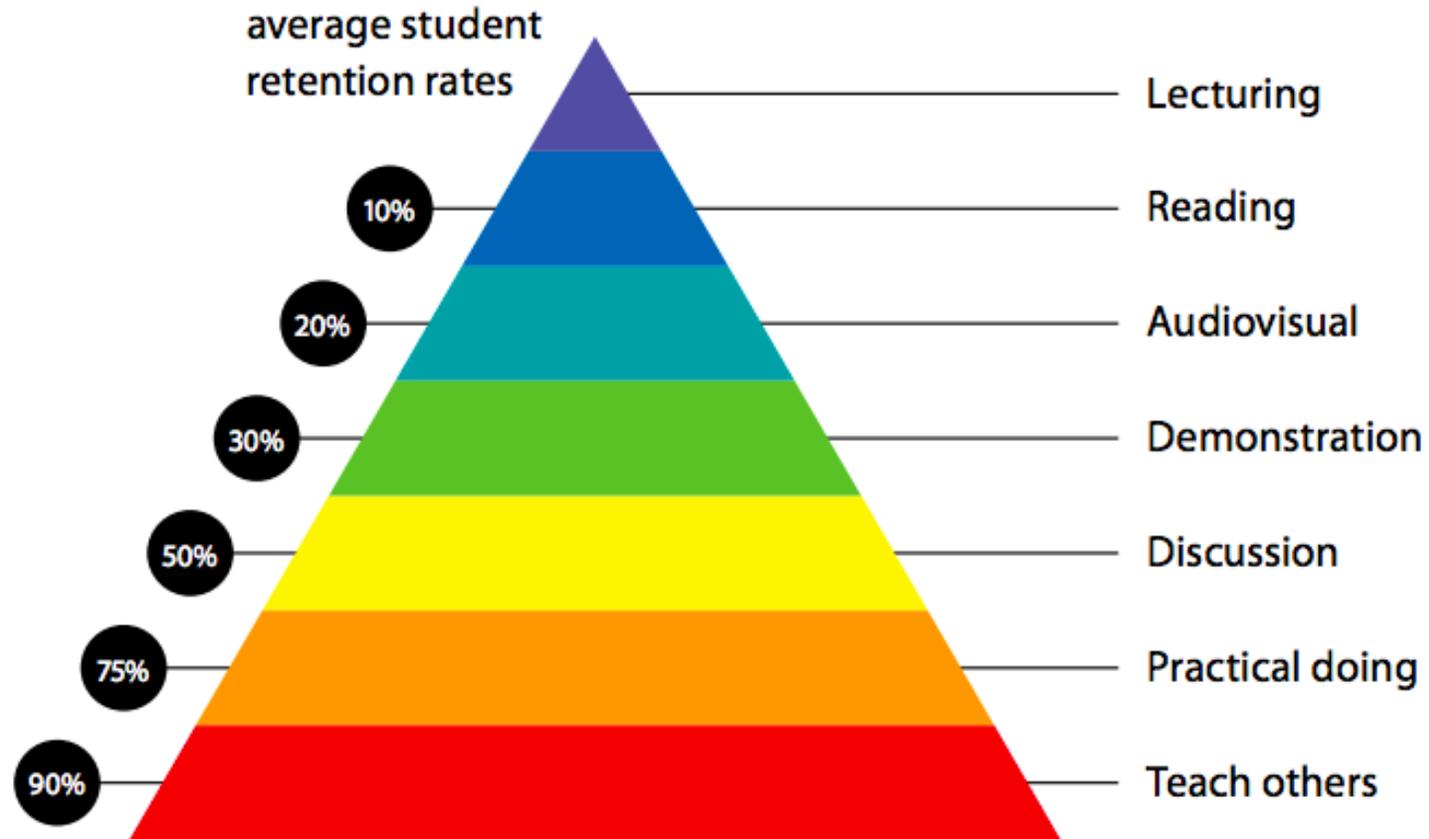
The principles

- requires an Ongoing Reflexive Process
- does not have a ›One-Size-Fits-All‹ Solution
- students have Different Learning Styles
- students have Different Needs and Interests
- choice is Central to Effective Learning
- students have Different Experiences and Background Knowledge
- students should have Control Over their Learning
- is about ›Enabling‹ not ›Telling‹
- learning needs Cooperation between Students and Staf

Learning - why is it important for students?

- Making Students an Integral Part of the Academic Community
- An Increased Motivation to Learn
- Independence and Responsibility in Learning
- Due Consideration for Student Needs

Learning - why is it important for students?



Learning - why is it important for students?

- Making students more active in acquiring knowledge and skills
- Making students more aware of what they are doing and why they are doing it
- Focusing on interaction
- Focusing on transferable skills
- Formative Assessment
- Criterion-Referenced Assessment

I will tell you a secret

Student-centered learning

DOES NOT MEAN

digitalisation, more work at home, holding presentations etc

Perspective of the academic staff

- A More Interesting Role for the Teacher
- Solutions to Tackling Massification and Diversity
- Positive Impact on Working Conditions
- Continuous Self-Improvement
- Increased Learner Motivation and Engagement
- Professional Development for Academia

Policy makers - what should you even care?

- The Status of the Teaching Profession
- Increased Representation in Governance Structures
- Better Retention Rates in Higher Education
- Attracting Students
- Quality Enhancement
- An Ongoing Improvement Process
- Fostering a Lifelong Learning Culture

Implementation

Curriculum Design and the Use of Learning Outcomes

- students have a choice in what to study and how to study
- learning outcomes focusing on what the student will be able to do
- identification, use and communication of learning outcomes by all teachers
- learning outcomes to be specifically assessed
- Learning Outcomes should be clear, positive, encouraging



Implementation

Internal Quality Assurance

- strong focus on the quality of assessment
- assesement against learning outcomes
- transaprency



Implementation

Ongoing Professional Development of Academic Staff

Innovative and digital tools

Central role of libraries and accessible learning materials

Promoting the culture of the SCL



How to introduce it in the external QA?

- National standard complying with ESG 1.3
- Independent and trainer student experts
- Dialogue with universities on SCL and learning outcomes
- Stakeholders cooperation on implementation
- Evaluation as a final action

Source

Student-Centered Learning

SCL Toolkit

by Education International

and ESU



STUDENT-CENTRED LEARNING

TOOLKIT FOR STUDENTS, STAFF AND
HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS



Are your agencies familiar with the concept?

Are they supportive for SCL?



How agencies can stimulate student-centered HEIs?



Final comments?

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THANK YOU!
