

# Philosophy TA Workshop: Leading Effective and Inclusive Tutorials

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# Opener

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- Who has ever had a philosophy tutorial or discussion section as an undergrad?
- What makes an effective teacher?

Infinity Bridge, UK.

Image Source: <http://collabcubed.com/2013/03/28/infinity-bridge-stockton-on-tees/>



# Agenda

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- Lesson Planning
- Learning Styles
- Active Learning

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# Lesson Planning

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# Lesson Planning: Basics

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There are several “schools of thought” regarding lesson planning.

We’re going to cover one general style

- Set, Body, Close (TATP)
- Or... BOPPPS (ISW)

This isn’t going to be a rule you have to follow, but just a possible approach or guideline.

# BOPPPS

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## Bridge-In

Gets attention, builds motivation, gets at why the lesson is important.

## Objective

What will the learner know by the end of the lesson.

## Pre-Assessment

Lets you know what the learner already knows about the subject of the lesson.

## Participatory Learning

Body of the lesson, learners are involved actively in their learning process.

## Post-Assessment

Demonstrates if learner has learned, and linked it to objective.

## Summary

Provides opportunity to reflect briefly and integrate what they learned.

# Mini-Lesson

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Mini-lesson will demonstrate BOPPPS in action.

**B**ridge-In

**O**bjective

**P**re-Assessment

**P**articipatory Learning

**P**ost-Assessment

**S**ummary

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# Kolb Learning Styles

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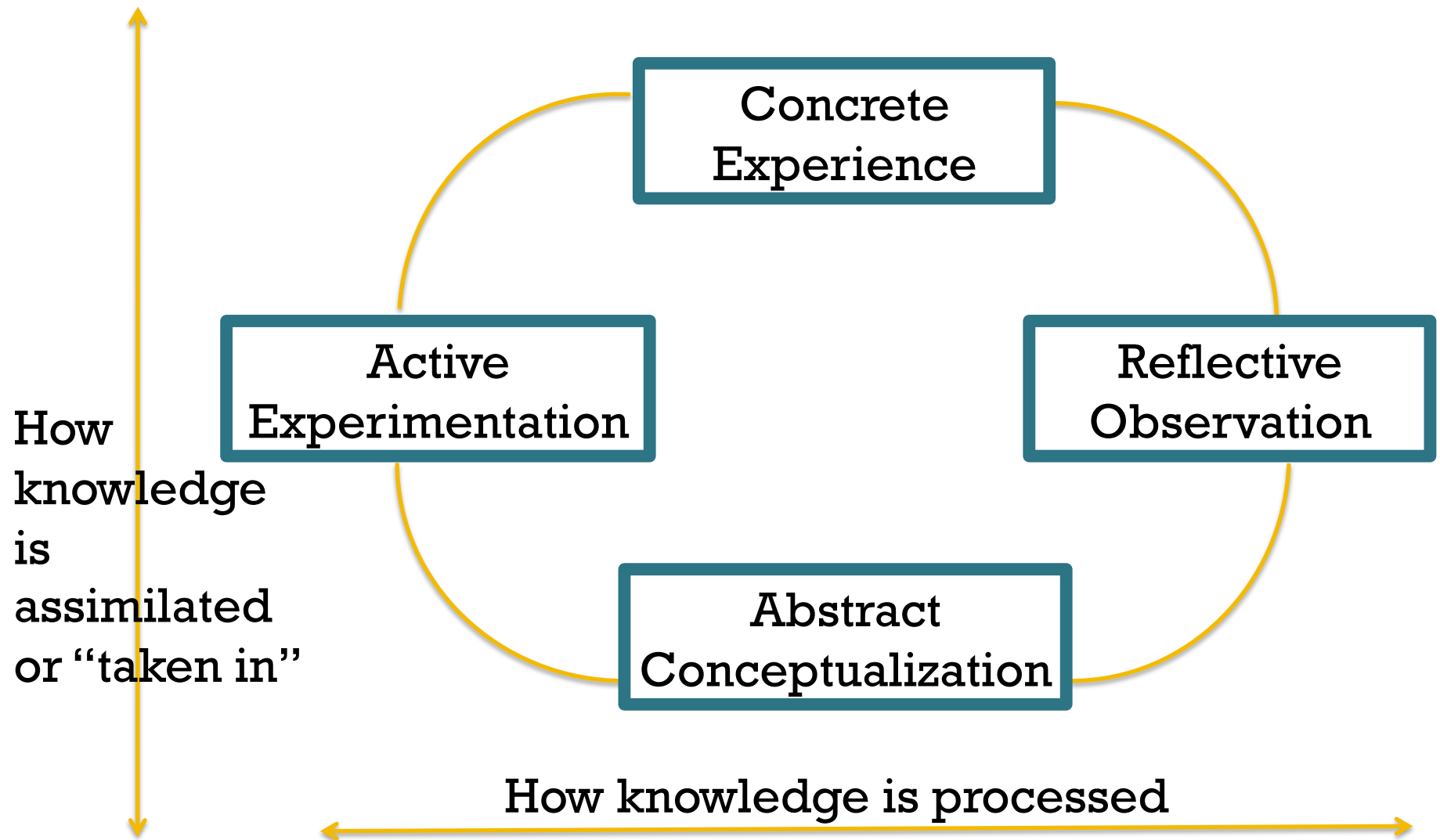
# Learning Style Assessment

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- We should want to understand the different learning styles in order to reach all of our students
- People often tend to teach in a style that closely aligns with their own learning preferences
  - Awareness will help you develop your teaching skills
  - And design lessons to fully engage all students, all of the different learning styles

# Kolb Specific Ways of Learning

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# Activity: Kolb Learning Styles

Each table has one of the four learning style quadrants...

- Tell us about the learner your table was given.
- What type of teaching or activities work well for you, and what is more challenging?
  - What about philosophy? What will you like, and not like in your philosophy classes?

# Kolb Learning Styles

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- **Concrete Experience**  
Prefer peer-based work, applied knowledge, experiential learning
- **Abstract Conceptualization**  
Prefer theory, analysis, conceptualization, rational evaluation
- **Active Experimentation**  
Prefer projects, small groups, open-ended discussions
- **Reflective Observation**  
Prefer lectures, impartial thinking, taking their time to formulate ideas

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# Active Learning

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# Active Learning:

## Why does it matter? Why should I try it?

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- Remember better, deeper learning
- Get to know each other, be friendly
- Refocuses the lesson, breaks up monotony
- Gets students to test out ideas in a safe way
- Forced expression, learning by talking about ideas
- Works on communication and collaboration skills
  - A transferable skills of what you need to do in the rest of the world!
- Shifts responsibility to students for content (or at least shares)
- GOOD active learning is fun and you get a deeper understanding
  
- For the Grumps?  
<http://www4.ncsu.edu/unity/lockers/users/f/felder/public/Columns/Sermons.pdf>

# Active Learning Activities

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## Activity!

I'll handout active learning activities, and we'll try to think about how they would work in a philosophy tutorial section.

- Tell us about your activities.
- Which of the Kolb styles does the activity works well for, and which it does not?
- How could you incorporate your active learning activity into a philosophy tutorial?

# Active Learning Activities

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Activities come from:

[http://www.uwo.ca/tsc/resources/resources\\_graduate\\_students/ta\\_handbook/leading\\_discussions/discussion\\_models.html](http://www.uwo.ca/tsc/resources/resources_graduate_students/ta_handbook/leading_discussions/discussion_models.html)

<https://uwaterloo.ca/centre-for-teaching-excellence/teaching-resources/teaching-tips/developing-assignments/assignment-design/active-learning-activities>

<https://uwaterloo.ca/centre-for-teaching-excellence/teaching-resources/teaching-tips/alternatives-lecturing/active-learning/varying-your-teaching-activities>



# Feedback Survey!

## Questions?

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Contact: [mjacquar@uwo.ca](mailto:mjacquar@uwo.ca)

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# Thanks!

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