
Approaches to Learning

Donna C. Llewellyn, Ph.D.

Director, Center for the Enhancement of
Teaching and Learning, Georgia Tech

Learning Objectives

- Be able to describe the differences between a surface, deep, and achieving approach to learning.

Learning Objectives

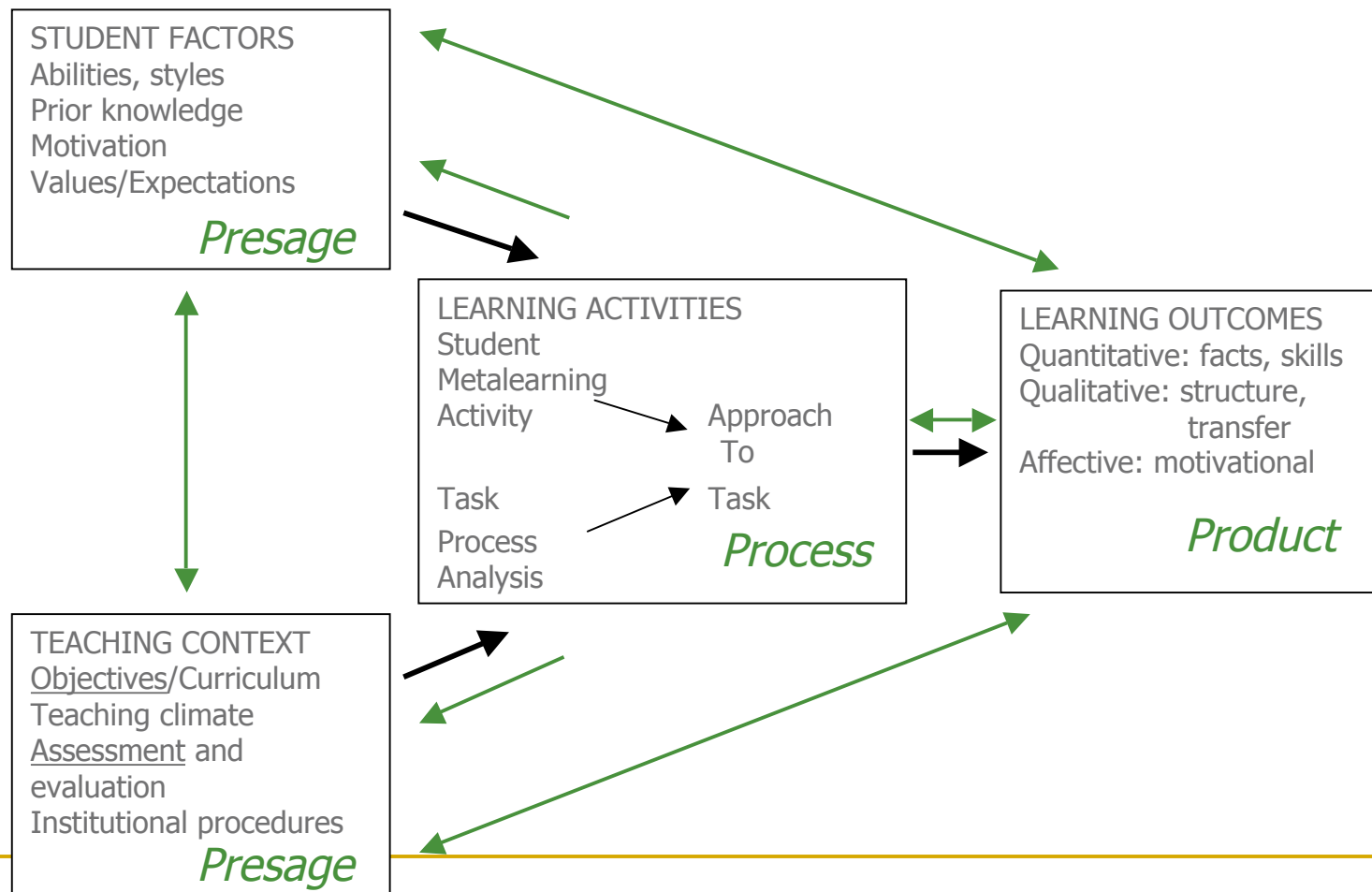
- Be able to identify characteristics of your students and details of their environment that has led them to take a surface, deep, or achieving approach to learning.

Learning Objectives

- Be able to discuss the effects of the learning environment and assessment tools in your intro science course on the approach to learning pursued by your students.

Learning Theory

Biggs 3P Model (*Biggs, 1999*)



Learning Theory

Approaches to Learning

- **Deep**: Attaching personal meaning, links to previous experience/knowledge, has questioning attitude, holistic view
- **Surface**: Focused on minimum effort to meet requirements and not learning outcome, rote learning is common
- **Achieving**: Desire to reach top performance, high grade, will focus on strategy to meet course objective