

Content + Your Students + You = LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

CONTENT

Don't be tied to the text!

Match the situation in which they learn as closely as you can to the situation in which they will use the material

STUDENT

Three Parker Palmer quotes

I miss . . . possibilities when I assume their their silence signifies a problem, reacting to it from my own need for control rather than their need to learn.” p. 82

“Students are marginalized people in our society. . . . people who have reason to fear those in power and have learned that there is safety in not speaking.” p. 45

“Intellect works in concert with feeling, so if I hope to open my students' minds, I must open their emotions as well.” p. 63

YOU

Do not teach from fear:

Three Parker Palmer quotes:

“I am at my worst when fear takes the lead in me whether that means teaching in fear of my students or manipulating their fears of me.” p. 36

“To avoid a live encounter with students, teachers can hide behind their podium, their credentials, their power.” p. 37

“My sense of self is deeply dependent on others dancing with me and that I still have a self when no one wants to dance.” p. 72

LEARNING OPPORTUNITY

Three Parker Palmer quotes:

Technique is what teachers use until the real teacher arrives” p. 5

“we glorify the method du jour, leaving people who teach differently feeling devalued, forcing them to measure up to norms not their own.” p. 12

“we rarely consider that our students may die in the classroom because we use methods that assume they are dead.” p. 42

Teach relevant content in meaningful ways, don't “cover” chapters.

References and resources:

Dews, C.L. (1995). *This Fine Place So Far From Home: Voices of Academics From the Working Class*. Temple University Press.

Farrell, T.S.C. (2004.) *Reflective Practice in Action: 80 Reflection Breaks for Busy Teachers*. Sage.

Fink, D. (2003). *Creating Significant Learning Experiences: An Integrated Approach to Designing College Experiences*. Jossey Bass.

Palmer, P. (1997). *The Courage to Teach: Exploring the Inner Landscape of a Teacher's Life*. Jossey-Bass.