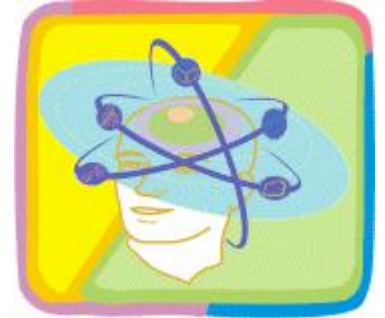


Why Intentional Learning?

Intentional learning skills are not just for professional training design and development practitioners and facilitators to build into the design and delivery of learning initiatives. They're for everyone who needs to be processing, retaining, recalling and using information to make sense of the world they live in.



Information Explosion

We live in a time of exponential growth. Everything about our world is changing faster than ever before in every way. We are flooded with data all the time and everywhere.

The challenge is that your conscious mind can only hold about 7 things at once. Think of the last time you needed to recall a phone number after you dialed 411. Your ability to move information from your short-term into long-term memory is critical to your ongoing success. Are you maximizing your ability to handle the explosion of information?

Did you also know that you only use about 10% of your ability to learn? What would happen to you personally and professionally if you could tap into an extra 5 or 10% of your learning capability?

Learner-Managed Learning

Have you noticed the trend that you, as a customer, are increasingly taking control of your own customer service needs? There are self-service kiosks to renew your driver's license as well as online stores to input and update your customer information and order products and services.

In the same way customers are becoming more self-sufficient and proactive, you, as a learner, need to take the initiative to influence how you learn best. Right now, most of the learning tactics and strategies are in the hands of the learning designers and facilitators, not the learners. But that's changing. Whether you're listening to a lecture, attending a workshop or conference, completing an online learning program, or reading a book/e-zine, you can consciously and intentionally apply personally effective learning strategies.

Learning Styles

You probably already know that there are four primary learning styles:



Visual - you learn by seeing



Auditory - you learn by hearing



Kinesthetic - you learn by touch and/or your emotions.



Verbal - you learn by saying what you're thinking.

There are various types of assessments you can complete to identify your learning style.

However, just knowing your learning style is not enough. Being encouraged to watch and observe more as a visual learner doesn't really help. Did you know that there are hundreds of learning strategies you can personally use to learn faster and more effectively?

Once you know these learning strategies you can intentionally apply them in any learning situation.

Learning as a Competitive Advantage

Are you concerned about not learning as fast as everyone else? Are you having trouble keeping up with your peers because of information overload? Is your employability being eroded? As a knowledge worker, your ability to learn quickly and effectively is a key competitive advantage to both you and your organization.

Imagine the impact if you learned how to learn before attending your next learning event. Not only would the return on investment (ROI) be high both personally and professionally, it would grow dramatically over time. You never stop learning. So why not learn how to learn to maximize your ability to learn.