

Learning Styles and Caring Science: Implications for Education

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Received: August 11, 2017; **Published:** September 23, 2017

Learning style is an important consideration that influences individuals' learning efficiency and effectiveness [1,2]. Learning style has been studied extensively in previous research, but few researchers have explored the relationship between learning styles and caring behaviours of students, especially with the caring variable. However, the high quality education intends to help student maximizing their learning outcomes in a caring learning environment. Education is a dynamic process, caring has remained the backbone of the discipline in both teaching and learning. Caring science informs and serves as the moral-philosophical-theoretical-foundational starting point for education, research, and even administrative practices [3]. As an educator, he/she needs to be aware of the caring characteristic for students while using teaching strategies that closely match the students' preferred learning styles.

Individuals have their own learning styles. There is no best learning style in the world, because each learning style has its own strength and weakness. Research has indicated that understanding of learning styles can strengthen learning effectiveness, as well as maximize learners' academic performance. Caring is a distinguished element that constitutes the backbone of the educational system. Caring includes conformance to the ethical and legal principles of care, which requires knowledge, competency, and interpersonal skills [3]. Research has implicated that caring behaviours are significantly related to learning styles [4]. The application of learning style demands that administrators and educators become more active participants in educational enterprises by providing a caring and supportive learning environment in which students can play a major role in their own learning [5], while engaging in learning settings that enrich their lives and enhance their academic performances.

An understanding of the learning styles that affect persistence in higher education is vital to improving retention efforts. Teachers should be aware of the learning styles present in their learning settings, in order to adjust their presentations accordingly. Educators should recognize learning styles as an important element needed to create an optimal learning environment, while increasing retention, in order to promote education [6]. In addition, cultural effects may be a factor that influences how people learn and express caring attitude. Confucian value in Chinese culture stresses being in harmony with surrounding social contexts [7]. Confucianism states the value of both strong family bonds and educational impact in Chinese culture. Therefore, culture has a major impact that should be concerned in the educational profession.

The information about learning style and caring science is a major consideration while planning for successful education. Further research is recommended. Implications provide information that can enhance programme design, service provision, and learning outcomes for nursing students. This information can be used to modify the modes of delivery and participation, student assignments, structuring learning groups, and other methods to enhance caring. Educators need to consider the individuals in learning, as well as the importance of caring, in order to build an effective curriculum. Regarding practical implications, a reference can be provided for the design of educational curricula. Moreover, varied teaching strategies can be used to appropriately respond to students' needs, so that they can mitigate problems in learning and achieve the best learning outcome, thereby enhancing education in caring surroundings.

Conflicts of Interest

The author has no conflicts of interest.

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Volume 5 Issue 5 September 2017

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