

Importance of Continuous (Lifelong) Learning

Everyone cannot know everything. Everyone has to learn continuously. New knowledge is created all the time. Knowledge has to be updated. Knowledge has to grow. Learning has no limits. Education never ends. Learning can occur outside classrooms. Learned knowledge should not be forgotten, but knowledge has to be increased and accumulated.

The world is changing all the time. Artificial intelligence brings advancement in technology. Technology is changing rapidly. People have to follow upcoming technology and be continuous learners. Sometimes knowledge has to be relearned since the technology has been changed. New technology can be a better tool to find new knowledge. Therefore, continuous learning is very important in this era.

Continuous learning is a process of self-development. Awareness of changes around us helps us adjust ourselves better in society. It helps us to not fall behind other people. Not walking forwards is equal to walking backwards. Continuous learning is not only important for work, but also for being a person with a happy living life.

Students have to be lifelong learners. They have to know how to use information technology to search for information that quickly changes by themselves. They have to have analytical thinking skills to be able to choose correct and reliable information. Students should have interests in searching for answers. Students should know how to apply their learned knowledge in everyday life. Continuous learning helps students to have systematically thinking by knowing the basic theories and using them to create new knowledge. After graduation, students will have high potential to work and they will be able to work effectively.

Knowledge Management

Importance of Continuous (Lifelong) Learning



School of Biotechnology

Assumption University

For more information, please contact Asst. Prof. Dr. Suwimon Ariyaprakai, School of Biotechnology

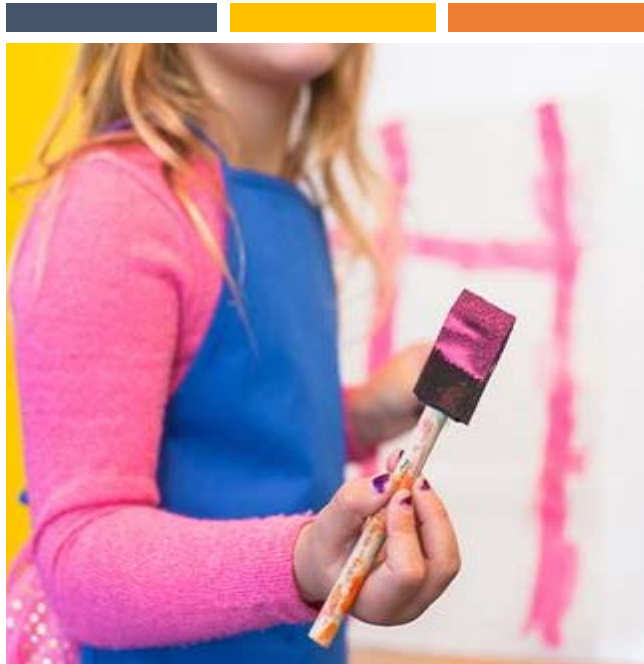


Teaching techniques to develop students to be lifelong learners.

1. Teachers teach students the methods and tools to search for information. Teachers teach students to evaluate the reliability of the obtained information. Students should know how to search for scientific journals that world widely accepted. Student should know how to search for research articles by using online database such as ScienceDirect. They should know how to search for news and information from Google and YouTube.

2. Teachers develop students to have analytical thinking skills to analyze obtained data and information, to have synthesis skills, and to have integrative thinking skills.

3. Teachers develop students to have problem solving skills. Students should be able to analyze problems and solve problems by themselves. Teachers can continuously provide students homework assignment that students practice problem solving and learn to think critically. Teachers can assign students to solve problems or have hand-on experience by themselves before teachers give the advice. Teachers can use different case studies as teaching tools. Teacher can assign students to search for information and find problem solutions and teachers evaluate on their problem solving skills. Teachers can teach students to apply basic knowledge to solve related problems.



4. Teachers teach students the research methodology. Students should be able to conduct research from start to finish. Teachers teach students how to conduct research projects with different topics. Students should know how to analyze data, make conclusions, and present research results. They should know how to work on a research project by themselves. Students should have creativity to produce creative work and better work.

5. Teachers develop students to have interest in research and to understand the importance of research. Teachers can frequently talk about recent research finding and innovation in classrooms. Teachers can assign students to search for current research articles and bring the articles to discuss with others in classrooms.

6. Teachers stimulate students to ask questions in classrooms, including the questions that not related to the studied topics. Teachers encourage students to find answers to the questions and exchange their answers with other students in classrooms. This method creates new questions from different perspectives of students.

7. Teachers develop students to have eagerness to learn. Students should have purposes to be knowledgeable and to improve themselves. They should not study only to pass the examinations. Teachers can encourage students to self-study and allow students to come to freely ask questions.



8. Teachers create good learning environment that students have fun during learning in classrooms. Teachers are not very strict to students in classrooms. Teachers realize that students are only learners and teachers are only persons who guide students.

9. Teachers teach students the method of self-learning, not spoon-feeding students. For example, teachers do not provide all contents in the lecture handouts. Students have to search for the missing data or the definitions of some vocabularies. The answers from all students can be combined in classrooms and teachers guide students which information source is reliable.

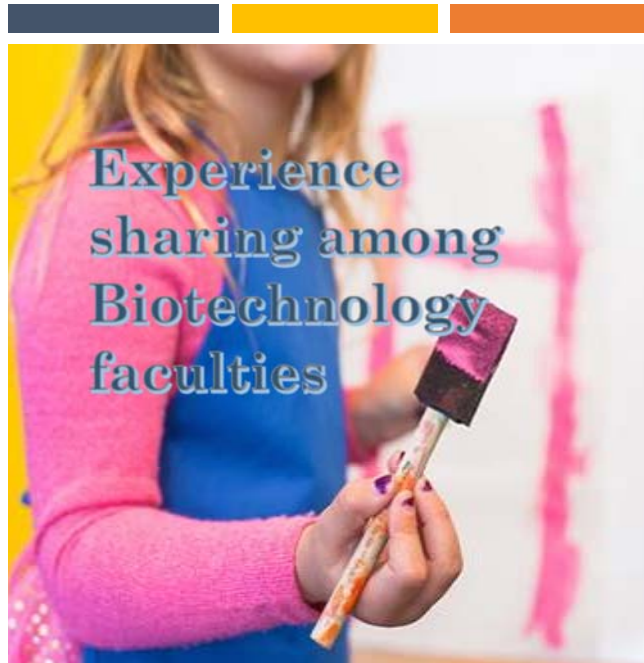
10. Teachers teach students to understand the importance of continuous learning. Teachers can tell students that teachers do not know everything but just know where to find the knowledge from and from which source. Teachers can talk about the concept of “Stay hungry, Stay foolish”.

11. Teachers teach students to know how to apply their knowledge appropriately in real workplace situations and teach them how to update their knowledge.

12. Teachers teach students with the up-to-date contents and the up-to-date teaching materials. Teacher can talk about current world situations, latest technology, and new knowledge obtained from recent research.

13. Teachers teach students to realize problems that occurred in real situations or in communities i.e. environmental problems, machine problems, and problems during conducting experiments in laboratory.

14. Teachers post useful information and new knowledge on Facebook and Line that students continuously receive related knowledge.



15. Teachers encourage students to attend seminars and workshops. School organizes seminars and workshops that students have opportunities to exchange their knowledge and experience.

16. School can offer a course for alumni such as one course per academic year. Alumni can come back to school to attend this course.

How to be lifelong learners

1. Always following latest news from different media channels, including asking questions from the news and analyzing and synthesizing the obtained information.

2. Always reading research articles from scientific journals that can be searched from ScienceDirect database.

3. Always attending seminars, conferences, workshops, and panel discussions to learn new things all the time.

4. Following latest technology news. Following research trends and current research topics. Gaining new knowledge from recent research. Always reading and self-studying.

5. Conducting own research projects. Finding research collaborators. Finding supporters that can provide research equipment. Publishing research papers in scientific journals. Presenting research papers in academic conferences. Organizing academic conferences.

6. Visiting processing plants and factories with new manufacturing technology. Visiting research and innovation exhibitions.

7. Always practicing and improving English language skills in speaking, reading, and writing.

8. Finding opportunities to exchange experience with others. Asking alumni and graduates about problems in workplace to learn from them about the current situations in workplace.

