TEACHING ASSISTANT’S Guide to the Different Ways that Students Learn

The list represents what a group of experienced TAs at UVic identified as the differing ways in which they learn. TAs may use this list to help them develop teaching strategies that will address all learners. Not all suggestions below may be applicable in all departments on campus. Please use the list as a guide only.

I learn by:
- Problem solving
- Practice and through observation
- Asking myself questions
- Explaining to others and verbal engagements
- Doing and experience
- Sensations and intuitions from relationships
- Making associations cognitively
- Reading and hearing
- Figuring out what I don’t know
- Imagery and visuals
- Fitting it into the big picture
- Example
- Making mistakes
- Testing myself
- Repetition
- Patterns and rhythm and the use of different colours
- Applying what I have learnt
- Memorization
- Reading
- Applying it to society
- Experience through labs or psychomotor activities (like flapping arms)
- Mistake, part of the process
- Applying knowledge
- Feedback
- Knowing the past
- Visuals

The following list was developed during the Teaching Assistant Consultants’ (TACs) seminars for the academic year, 2009-2010.