Teaching and Learning Tips

Some Videos That Might Help

I. Millennials: Who They Are & Why We Hate Them
   TED Talk from Scott Hess

II. The Millennials Are Coming
   A brief 60 Minutes piece on Millennials entering the workforce.

III. Motivating Millennials and Gen Y Employees
   A CNN piece focusing on how to motivate Millennials and Gen Y workers.

IV. Why Millennials Act Entitled
   A CBS News piece examining Millennials and their sense of entitlement.

Teaching and Learning Tips

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Teaching and Learning Tips 01

Generation Y
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Generation Y: Get To Know Your Learners

Think about this: the vast majority of the undergraduates were born from 1990-1995, so even the oldest students from this group were still pre-teens when 9/11 occurred.

All of these students are members of Generation Y.

Generation Y: Defined as cohort after Generation X. Dates differ, but the most commonly associated dates label Generation Y as the people born during the years 1981—2000.

Population: 27% of the US population as of 2010. Roughly 50% of the world’s population is under 30.


Racial Makeup: Most racially and ethnically diverse generation in US history.

Home Life: Only 61% of Gen Y was raised in a two-parent household, the smallest percentage in US history.

Technology Usage: Most wired generation in history. 93% of teens ages 12-17 go online, as do 93% of young adults ages 18-29. 75% of Generation Y have created a profile on a social networking site.

Education: So far, 1 in 5 from Generation Y are college graduates. An additional 26% are currently in school and plan to graduate from college, while an additional 30% are not in school but expect to someday earn a college degree.

Tips for Teaching Generation Y

Not listed by order of importance:

1. Create a multi-media environment
2. Include flexibility into your course
3. Offer opportunities to multi-task
4. Provide for simulations
5. Include ways for learners to customize learning …
6. … but provide a very structured design
7. Enable heavy internet usage
8. Give them projects to complete
9. Allow for teamwork
10. Connect to learners through social networks (like Edmodo)

Ideas for course design and development to help decode the “Digital Natives”.

“The most educated and technologically literate generation.”

5 Fast Facts About Gen Y

Source: Traditionalists, Baby Boomers, Generation X, Generation Y, and Generation Z. Working Together

Learner Traits for Generation Y

Note: These are broad group traits and not individual learner traits.

- Short Attention Span
- Wired 24/7
- Expects immediate feedback
- Prefers text-based communication
- Deficient social skills
- Strong sense of entitlement
- Achievement-oriented
- Questions authority
- Egalitarian
- Multi-taskers
- Highly-visual learners
- Casual
- Sheltered as children
- Expects accommodations
- Often concerned with style over substance
- Opinionated

5 Fast Facts About Gen Y

EYE ON IT:

Recent News on Generation Y

- Generation Y Struggling to Start Their Adult Lives
- Generation Rx?
- Generation Adderall
- Millennials Act Way Too Immature at the Office

WEBSITE:

Staff Pick

Edmodo is a social network geared towards learners and educators

Generation Y in Their Own Words

A. (Gen Yer from MA born in 1991) Well, I was in 4th grade. My teacher wheeled in a TV into our science class. I didn’t even know what the World Trade Center was at the time, so I couldn’t really process what was occurring. Then when I got home, my parents were watching the news coverage.

Q. (Gen Xer born in 1974) So the events didn’t really register for you at the time?
A. (Gen Yer born in 1991) Not really. I wasn’t very global in 4th grade. I mean I knew it was a big deal from the reaction of my parents and teachers, but it wasn’t that big of deal to me and my friends.