

2007 AALS Workshop for New Law Teachers
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Learning Theory and the Classroom

I. Models of Teaching

- Banking model--transmission of information
- Learner-centered model

II. Learning Theory

- The literature
- Classroom experience

III. How People Learn - Basic Concepts

- Preconceptions
 - unschooled mind
 - law and lawyers
 - school and law school
- Deep understanding
 - knowledge base
 - structured knowledge
 - conditionalized knowledge
 - expert-novice studies
 - cognitive apprenticeship
- Metacognition
 - what do we know
 - how do we think and learn

IV. The Law School Classroom

- Finding out what they know (or imagine) and how they think
- Structuring the course around basic concepts
- Providing explicit problem-solving strategies
- Demonstrating and practicing the problem-solving process
- Feedback
- The coverage issue