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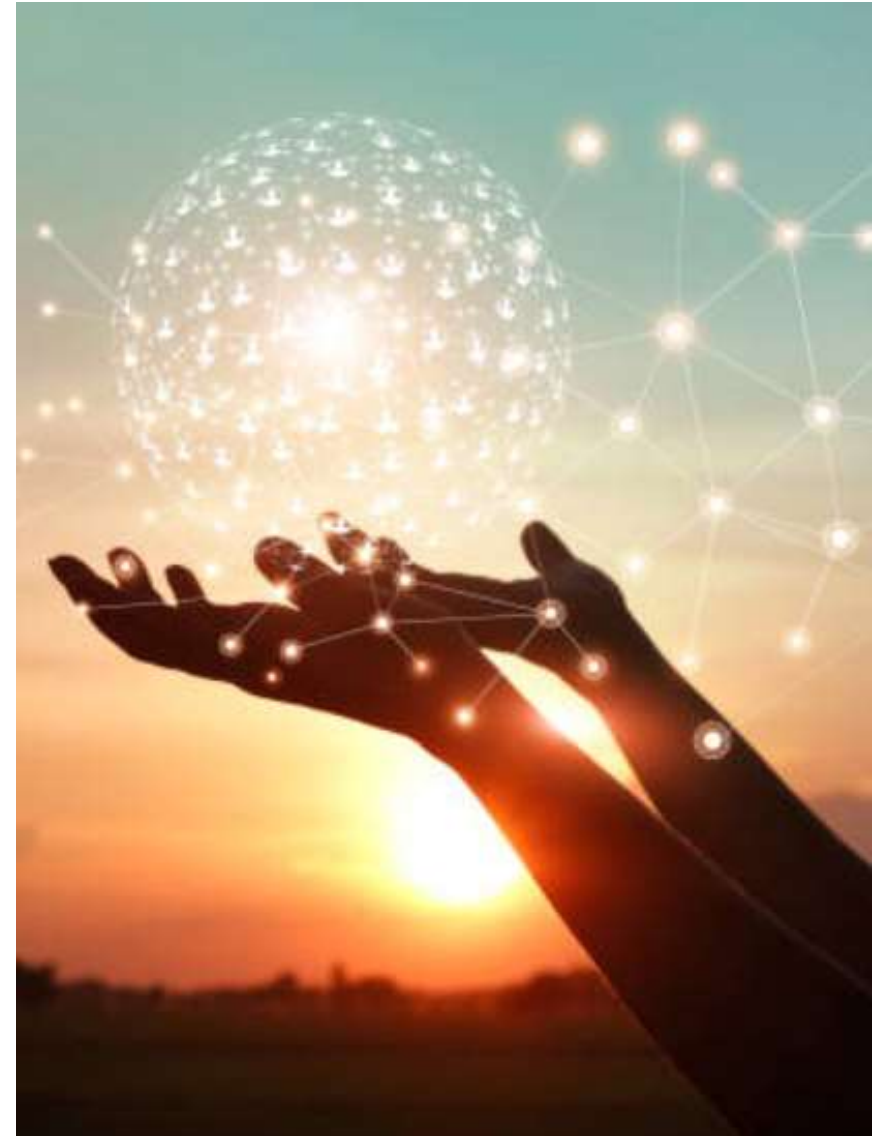
PEDAGOGY OF PARTNERSHIP IN HIGHER EDUCATION: NATIONAL EXPERIENCE

Maryna Salun

Doctor of Economics, Professor
Head of Entrepreneurship & Trade Department
Simon Kuznets Kharkiv National University of Economics

Kateryna Zaslavska

PhD in Economics, Associate Professor
Entrepreneurship & Trade Department
Simon Kuznets Kharkiv National University of Economics



PARTNERSHIP PEDAGOGY

is based on a
combination of:

- pedagogical theories and practices that prioritize collaboration,
- student-centered learning,
- the development of meaningful relationships between students and educators

1. **Constructivism**

Emphasizes that learning is an active and social process. Constructivism posits that students construct their understanding of knowledge through interactions with their environment and peers. Students actively engage in collaborative activities, co-create knowledge, and construct meaning through social interactions, reflecting the constructivist approach.

2. **Experiential Learning**

Students learn through reflection on concrete experiences. By actively participating in collaborative projects, research, or community engagement activities, students gain first-hand experiences that deepen their understanding of concepts and develop practical skills. Reflection and feedback are essential components of partnership pedagogy, allowing students to make connections between theory and practice.

3. **Social Constructivism**

Emphasizes the importance of social interaction and collaboration in knowledge construction, recognizes that learning occurs within a social context and is enhanced through dialogue, negotiation of meaning, and the sharing of perspectives. In partnership pedagogy, students engage in meaningful interactions with their peers and educators, contributing to the co-creation of knowledge and the development of a shared understanding.

4. **Student-Centered Learning**

Places students at the center of the learning process, focusing on their agency, interests, and strengths. This approach aligns with student-centered learning theories, where students have a greater degree of autonomy and responsibility for their learning. Partnership pedagogy emphasizes student choice, voice, and active participation, allowing students to take ownership of their learning and develop self-directed learning skills.

5. **Communities of Practice**

Recognizes that learning is situated within social contexts and occurs through active participation in a community. In partnership-based approaches, students and educators form a community of practice, collaborating, sharing ideas, and collectively contributing to the learning process. This fosters a sense of belonging, shared identity, and the development of a supportive learning community.

6. **Dialogue and Deliberation**

Draws on principles from the field of democratic education. Students engage in open and respectful dialogue, where multiple perspectives are valued and differences are addressed constructively. This fosters critical thinking, the ability to consider diverse viewpoints, and the development of effective communication and collaboration skills.

Partnership-based teaching and learning methods are designed to foster **collaboration**, **co-creation**, and **mutual respect** between students and educators, empower students **to take an active role** in their learning journey, promoting deeper engagement, critical thinking, and the development of essential skills



Partnership-based teaching and learning methods

1. Collaborative Projects

Provide opportunities for students to work together on meaningful, real-world tasks. Can involve interdisciplinary teams or partnerships with external organizations, i.e., students from different disciplines can collaborate on designing solutions for community issues or conducting research on complex societal problems. This approach encourages teamwork, communication, and the application of knowledge to practical contexts.

2. Co-Design of Course Materials

Students can participate in the co-design of course materials. It includes involving students in the selection and creation of learning resources, such as textbooks, readings, and multimedia content. By engaging in this process, students have a sense of ownership over their learning materials, enabling them to tailor the resources to their needs and interests. This approach promotes student agency, critical evaluation of resources, and an understanding of the learning process.

3. Peer Teaching and Mentoring

Involve students taking on the role of instructors or mentors for their peers. This can be done through structured group discussions, peer-led workshops, or mentoring programs. Students who have mastered a particular concept or skill can teach and guide their peers, fostering a supportive and collaborative learning environment. Peer teaching and mentoring enhance communication, leadership, and interpersonal skills, while also reinforcing learning through active engagement.

4. Student-Driven Research Projects

Students can engage in research projects where they contribute to the creation of knowledge in their field. This could involve conducting primary research, analysing data, or contributing to existing research initiatives. Students collaborate with faculty members as research partners, co-authoring papers or presentations. Such research projects foster critical thinking, problem-solving abilities, and an understanding of research methodologies.

5. Service-Learning

Integrates community service with academic coursework. Students engage in meaningful community projects that relate to the course content, applying theoretical knowledge to practical situations. For example, students studying environmental science may collaborate with local organizations to conduct environmental impact assessments or develop sustainability initiatives. Service-learning promotes civic engagement, social responsibility, and the application of knowledge in real-life contexts.

6. Student-Driven Discussions and Debates

Encourages students to actively participate in classroom discussions and debates. Students are given the opportunity to lead discussions, present their perspectives, and engage in respectful dialogue with their peers and instructors. This method enhances critical thinking, communication skills, and the ability to consider diverse viewpoints.

Benefits of Partnership Pedagogy

Benefits	Description
Enhanced Student Engagement	Partnership pedagogy promotes active student participation and ownership of learning, leading to increased engagement
Deeper Understanding	Through collaborative activities, students gain a deeper understanding of concepts by constructing knowledge together
Critical Thinking Skills	Partnership pedagogy fosters critical thinking through discussions, problem-solving, and reflection on diverse perspectives
Communication Skills	Students develop effective communication skills through collaboration, dialogue, and the exchange of ideas
Collaboration Skills	Partnership pedagogy cultivates teamwork and collaboration, preparing students for future work environments
Application of Knowledge	By engaging in real-world projects, students learn to apply theoretical knowledge to practical contexts effectively

Challenges of Partnership Pedagogy

Challenges	Description
Time Constraints	Implementing partnership pedagogy requires additional time for collaboration, planning, and facilitating discussions
Faculty Training and Support	Educators may need professional development and support to effectively implement partnership-based teaching methods
Assessment and Grading	Developing appropriate assessment methods that align with partnership pedagogy and ensure fair evaluation can be complex
Power Imbalances	Overcoming existing power dynamics between students and educators to create an equitable partnership can be challenging
Resistance to Change	Some students and educators may resist the shift from traditional teaching methods to partnership-based pedagogy
Group Dynamics and Conflict	Collaborative work can introduce interpersonal conflicts or challenges in group dynamics that need to be addressed

Thank you for your attention!