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Audio Poster Presentation

Stories Bring Us Together

Validating the use of Storytelling as a Learning Tool in Higher Education

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS ARLINGTON

Everyone has a story...

Overview

Stories make up our lives; that is, we learn about ourselves, others, and the world through stories. We are, after all, "constituted by stories" (McDrury & Alterio, 2002, p. 31). Ketelle (2017) says that "we live storied lives and build stories through our life experiences" (p. 143). Because storytelling is such a fundamental mode of human communication, it offers a powerful means of considering classroom pedagogy. For instance, storytelling is centered on listening and storytelling in the classroom allows for multiple layers within a story to be salient (Ketelle, 2017). In this project, we argue that every major in every college at UTA can use storytelling to strengthen pedagogy and learning in classrooms.

UT Arlington respectfully acknowledges the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes upon whose historical homelands this university is located. We recognize the historical presence of the Caddo Nation and other Tribal Nations in the region.

It's already being used in your college

Architecture, Planning, & Public Affairs
Architecture as spatial storytelling (Lyu, 2019)
Managing public affairs through storytelling (Heugens, 2002)

Business
Strategic business narrative techniques (Denning, 2006)

Education
Story as method (Gallagher, 2011)

Engineering
Storytelling in engineering education (Adams et al., 2007)

Liberal Arts
Implementing digital storytelling (Yozell et al., 2018)

Nursing & Health Innovation
Storytelling as nursing pedagogy (Fischer, 2019)

Science
Storytelling in science (Rowcliffe, 2004)

Social Work
Storytelling for resilience (Cook, 2020)

There is an abundance of evidenced-based, known research and implementation. Scholars have been writing about it for over two decades. With so many potential benefits, now is the time to implement it as a learning tool. For quick access to referenced resources and more, use this QR code

Effective Practices

McDrury & Alterio (2002) suggest these five steps for leaning through storytelling:

1. Story finding--stories that need to be told
2. Story telling--making sense of/ordering the story
3. Story expanding--making meaning about the events of the story
4. Story processing--reflecting on and learning from the story
5. Story reconstructing--critically analyzing the story

Students need to hear your stories