Is There a New Generation Coming to University that Educators Have to Approach in a New Way?
– Review of Literature

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- Digital Natives (M.Prensky, 2001)
- Net Generation (D.Tapscott, 1998)
- Millennials (N.Howe & W.Strauss, 2000)
- Homo Zappiens, Generation Y, Generation We, Echo Boomers

This new generation is unique because they

- are used to receiving information really fast
- like to parallel process and multi-task
- prefer their graphics before their text
- prefer random access
- function best when networked
- thrive on instant gratification and frequent rewards
- prefer games to “serious” work. (M.Prensky)

This new generation

- thinks differently
- is exceptionally curious and aware
- self-reliant
- contrarian
- extraordinarily tolerant and able to adapt
- high in self-esteem
- has a global orientation (D.Tapscott)

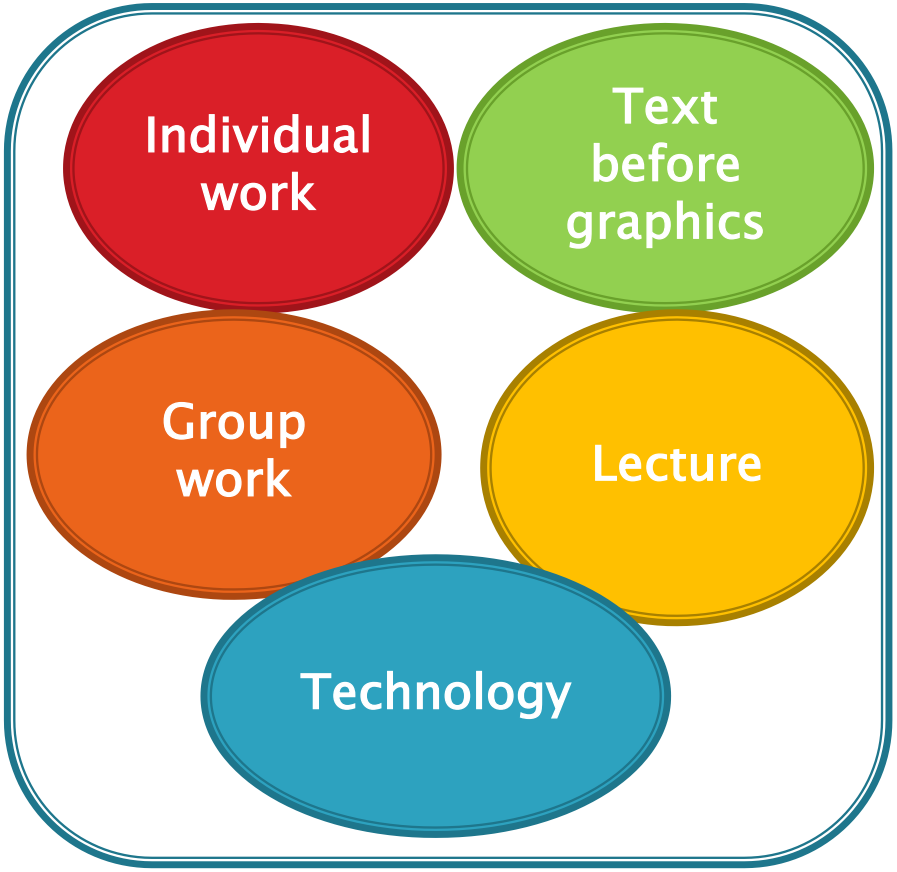
teacher-centered approach to learning: transmission of information from teacher to learner

learner-centered approach to learning: collaborative, experiential, interactive learning

Prensky, Tapscott, Howe & Strauss:
Homogeneous generation

Technology, group work, graphics before text

Research:
Mixture of different groups



“Students value technology insofar as it provides more convenience and lets them benefit from productivity gains in their academic or course work. But their preferences stay with face-to-face teaching: they expect technology to supplement this approach, not to change it radically.” (Pedró, 2009)

2×2=4

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