

Research Academy for University Learning at Montclair State University

Resources

Learning and Student Motivation

There is a rich literature of psychological studies on motivation and human learning, most of which—although the actual language may vary—contrast extrinsic motivation (performing for a grade) with intrinsic motivation (developing an internalized interest in the subject matter). Many of the studies below chart experiments which tested the relationship between motivation orientation (extrinsic or intrinsic) and performance, and many of them offer practical suggestions for helping our students develop an intrinsic interest in—and hence an intrinsic motivation for-- studying our subject matter.

Ames, R., and Ames, C. (1991). Educational Values and Cognitive Instruction: Implications for Reform. L. Idol and B. F. Jones (Eds.), *Motivation and Effective Teaching*. (247-271). Hillsdale: L. Erlbaum and Associates.

Brewer, E. W., Dunn, J. O., and Olszewski, P. (1988). Extrinsic Reward and Intrinsic Motivation: The Vital Link Between Classroom Management and Student Performance. *Journal of Education for Teaching Vol.14*, 151-170.

Brown, A. L. (1988). Motivation to Learn and Understand: On Taking Charge of One's Own Learning. *Cognition and Instruction Vol. 5*, 311-321.

Davis, B. G. (1993). *Tools for Teaching*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass Publishers, Inc.

- Deci, E. L. (1970). Effects of Externally Mediated Rewards on Intrinsic Motivation. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology Vol. 18.*
- Deci, E. L. and Flaste, R. (1996). *Why We Do What We Do: Understanding Self-Motivation.* New York, New York: Penguin.
- Deci, E. L., and Porac, J. (1978). Cognitive Evaluation and Theory and the Study of Human Motivation. M. R., and Greene, D. (Eds.), *Cognitive Evaluation and Human Motivation.* Leeper (155-158). Hillsdale, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum.
- Deci, E.L., & Flaste, R. (1995). *Why we do what we do: understanding self-motivation.* New York, NY: Penguin Group.
- Fair, E. M. III and Silvestri, L. (1992). Effects of Rewards, Competition and Outcome on Intrinsic Motivation. *Journal of Instructional Psychology Vol. 19, 3-8.*
- Frederick, P. J. (1993). Motivating Students by Active Learning in the History Classroom. *Perspectives Vol. 19, 15-19.*
- Lepper, M. R. (1997). Motivational Considerations in the Study of Instruction. *Cognition and Instruction Vol. 5, 289-309.*
- Marsh, H. W. (1984). Experimental Manipulations of University Student Motivation and Effects on Examination Performance. *British Journal of Educational Psychology Vol. 54, 206-213.*
- McMillan, J. H. and Forsyth, D. R. (1991). What Theories of Motivation Say About Why Learners Learn. Menges, R. J., and Svinicki, M. D. (Eds.), *College Teaching: From Theory to Practice* (39-52). San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, Inc.
- Michael, T. (1999). *Motivation from within: approaches for encouraging faculty and students to excel.* San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass.
- Miller, W., & Rollnick, S. (2002). *Motivational interviewing.* New York, NY: The Guilford Press.
- Motivating Students: How to Light Their Fire.* Oct 24, 1994. Evanston, IL. Center for Teaching, Vanderbilt University.
- Oxford, R. L. (Ed.). (1996). *Language learning motivation: pathways to the new century.* Honolulu, HI: Second Language Teaching & Curriculum Center, University of Hawaii Press.
- Perry, R. P., Menec, V. H., and Struthers, C. W. (1996). Student Motivation From a Teaching Perspective. Menges, R. J., and Weimer, M. (Eds.), *Teaching on Solid Ground: Using Scholarship to Improve Practice* (75-100). San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.

- Sakurai, Shigeo. (1990). The Effects of Four Kinds of Extrinsic Rewards on Intrinsic Motivation. *Psychologia Vol.33*, 220-229.
- Svinicki, M. D. (2004). *Learning and motivation in the postsecondary classroom*. Bolton, MA: Anker Publishing Company, Inc.
- Weissinger, E., Caldwell, L. L., and Bandalos, D. L. (1992). Relation Between Intrinsic Motivation and Boredom in Leisure Time. *Leisure Sciences Vol. 14*, 317-325.
- Westrom, M. and Shaban, A. (1992). Intrinsic Motivation in Microcomputer Games. *Journal of Research on Computing in Education Vol. 24*, 433-445.
- Wlodkowski, R. J., & Ginsberg, M. B. (1995). *Diversity & motivation*. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass.