

Assessing Student Learning Styles

Directions: Use the surveys for Neil Fleming's VARK modalities and Howard Gardner's theory of multiple intelligences to facilitate assessment of student learning styles.

The following survey draws on Fleming's VARK modalities.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Visual (V)				
I learn well when the information is presented in maps, diagrams, charts, and graphs.				
I learn well when there are symbolic arrows, circles, hierarchies, and other visual devices.				
I learn well when I visualize information in my mind.				
Auditory (A)				
I learn well when the information is spoken, such as from lectures, group discussion, radio, speaking, web chat, and talking things through.				
I learn well when I think out loud and talk to myself.				
Read and Write (R)				
I learn well when the information is presented in written text.				
I learn well from PowerPoint, textbooks, notes, Internet webpages, and dictionaries.				
I learn well when I am asked to write reports and essays.				
Kinesthetic (K)				
I learn well when the learning activities simulate real-life experiences.				
I learn well when I do something about the content being learned.				
I learn well when an example of the learning can be held, tasted, or felt.				

Source: Adapted from VARK Learn Limited. (n.d.). The VARK modalities. Accessed at <http://vark-learn.com/introduction-to-vark/the-vark-modalities> on June 17, 2016.

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The following survey draws on Gardner's theory of multiple intelligences.

Intelligence	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Visual-Spatial				
I learn well when the information is presented through models, graphics, charts, drawings, videos, and multimedia.				
I think in terms of physical space.				
Verbal-Linguistic				
I learn well when I read and write words.				
I oftentimes think in words (versus visualizing in charts or graphs).				
I like reading, playing word games, and making up poetry or stories.				
Logistical-Mathematical				
I think conceptually and abstractly, and I am good at reasoning and exploring patterns and relationships.				
I learn well through logic games and investigations.				
Bodily-Kinesthetic				
I learn well when I move and touch.				
I learn well through hands-on learning and role-playing.				
I communicate well through body language.				
Musical-Rhythmic				
I am sensitive to rhythms, sounds, tones, and music in the environment.				
I learn well when the lessons are taught through lyrics or words spoken rhythmically.				
I am more interested in learning when tools such as musical instruments, music, radio, stereo, or multimedia are used.				

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Intelligence	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Interpersonal				
I learn well when I interact with others.				
I enjoy group activities, seminars, debates, and dialogues.				
I communicate effectively and empathize with others.				
Intrapersonal				
I learn well independently.				
I am introspective and self-reflective about my thinking, emotions, and actions.				

Source: Adapted from Gardner, H., & Hatch, T. (1989). *Multiple intelligences go to school: Educational implications of the theory of multiple intelligences*. Educational Researcher, 18(8), 4–10; Wikipedia. (2015). Theory of multiple intelligences. Accessed at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Theory_of_multiple_intelligences#cite_note-G-H-9 on June 17, 2016.