Exploring the Ecology of Teaching, Learning & Creativity Norman Jackson

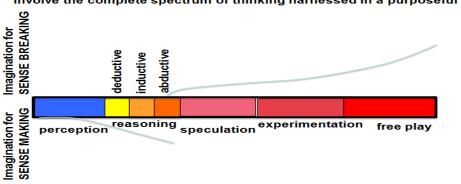
An ecological perspective on learning requires teachers to think of themselves as part of an ecosystem within which teaching and learning takes place and to think of the ecologies that they are creating to facilitate students' learning and creativity through their pedagogical thinking and practices. This talk explores the idea that learning, teaching and creativity are ecological phenomenon and our ecologies for learning something difficult and significant are the vehicles for integrating our creative imagination and critical reasoning to create new meaning.

Presentation & resources at http://www.normanjackson.co.uk/dit.html

CONCEPTS

Creativity & Critical Thinking in HE: DT580

THINKING ECOLOGICALLY: INTEGRATING REASON & IMAGINATION Exploring a perplexing situation, problem or opportunity for action can involve the complete spectrum of thinking harnessed in a purposeful way



From Ann Pendleton Julian and John Seeley Brown (2016) Pragmatic Imagination p68-9

LEARNING ECOLOGY CONCEPTUAL MODEL

Jackson (2016) Exploring Learning Ecologies https://www.lulu.com/



Our ecologies for learning are the vehicles for creating meaning.

They involve the integration of perception, reasoning
and imagination in purposeful thinking and action

Through their pedagogical thinking & practice, HE teachers create ecologies for students to learn, appropriate for a particular context **PEOPLE**

CONTEXT HE course/module & culture

teacher & students and what they bring to the situation

PURPOSE - learning a subject/skills learning to think/behave like.....

SPACES physical virtual intellectual psychological

RELATIONSHIPS learning. With

teachers create opportunities for learning. Students must see & use these affordances to benefit

AFFORDANCES

CONTENT & PROCESS teacher determines what content & how/ when it is learnt

LEARNING **CREATIVITY &** ACHIEVEMENTS EMERGE

teacher-students students & peers students & others who support their

FUTURE subject, resources/tools, spaces, activities & problems

RESOURCES (knowledge, tools, artefacts, technologies) teachers' embodied knowledge, students knowledge & experiences, explicit knowledge in books/ articles, internet resources

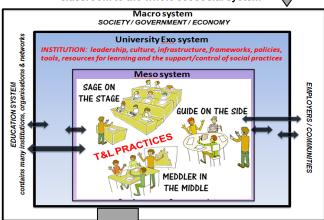
Ecological concept of pedagogy

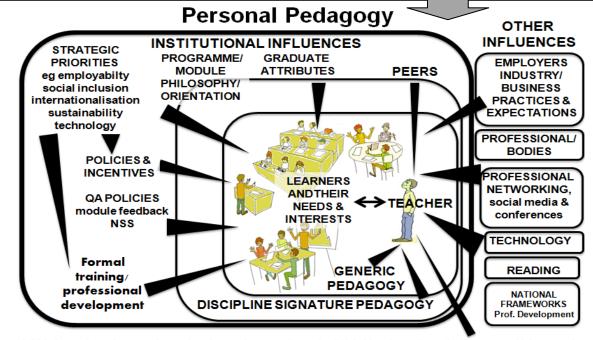
Pedagogy is more than teaching method, more than curriculum, more than assessment practice. It is all these things, but it is also how they are made into patterns of actions, activities and interactions by a particular teacher, with a particular group of students [in a particular context]

The concept of pedagogy encompasses relationships, conversations, learning environments, rules, norms and culture within the wider social context and may extend beyond school to community and public settings. It takes in the ways in which what teachers and students do is framed and delimited within a specific site, a policy regime and the historical [cultural] context

Thomson, P. Hall, C., Jones, K. and Green, J.S (2012) The Signature Pedagogies Project Final Report. Availa

Pedagogy connects what happens in the classroom to the whole ecosocial system

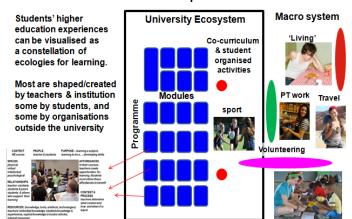




All higher education teachers develop unique pedagogical thinking based on their personal history of experience & learning and pedagogical practices based on their interactions with their ecosystem. Their personal pedagogy involves their awareness, disciplinary & pedagogical knowledge and skill, interests, beliefs, values, emotions and history - in fact everything they can bring to the situation to fulfil their role as a teacher and help their learners learn

Supporting Creativity & Critical Thinking in Many Learning Contexts A Learning Ecology Approach to Curriculum Design

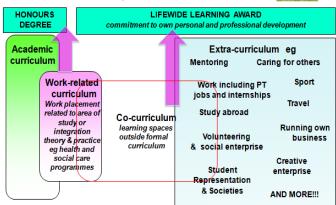
Ecologies for learning, developing & achieving occur at all scales & in all parts of a students' life



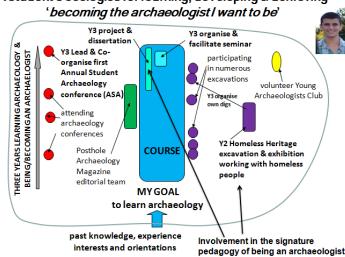
Ecologies for learning occur at all scales & in all parts of a students' higher education experience

To accommodate all the affordances for learning in a students' life we need to adopt a Lifewide Curriculum

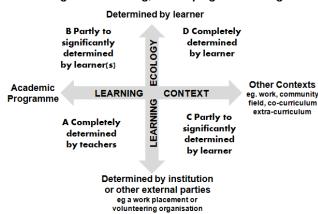




A student's ecologies for learning, developing & achieving



Conceptual tool for making sense of a students ecologies for learning, developing & achieving



Learning ecology includes goals, affordances, processes, spaces, relationships, resources (knowledge, tools, technologies, mediating artefacts)

