

Feature Book Review & Citations

Effective Instruction for STEM Disciplines: From Learning Theory to College Teaching. (2011). Book by Edward J. Mastascusa, William J. Snyder, and Brian S. Hoyt. Review by Nova Schauss. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass. 288 pp., \$42.00. ISBN 978-0-470-47445-7.

As the advising profession moves toward one of proactive and holistic support, advisors are increasingly expected to provide strategies to improve student learning and cognition. Advisors who work with students pursuing STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) majors will find this book particularly helpful. The authors delve into the educational experience related to teaching and learning as encountered by STEM students, and they present concrete strategies advisors can reference when working with students. Referencing research and literature within the field of learning and cognition, the authors present a collection of approaches that apply specifically to STEM educators and those who work peripherally with STEM students.

Advisors new to research surrounding learning and cognition will appreciate the pace at which the authors discuss various theories and pedagogical approaches. Readers need no prior knowledge of these concepts to benefit from the text. However, advisors experienced with learning theory may find parts of the book somewhat elementary or basic in structure (e.g., discussions of Bloom's taxonomy before transitioning into cognitive strategies). Similarly, some concepts are discussed in great detail when a simple explanation or sample scenario may have sufficed.

The authors clearly targeted their book to instructors of STEM courses. Consequently, STEM-related concepts are used to illustrate learning theory, models, and techniques. Therefore, advisors less familiar with STEM concepts may need to augment their current knowledge about these fields.

Advisors who supervise academic coaching or tutoring programs, facilitate supplemental instruction, train teaching assistants, or instruct study skills courses will find this book particularly relevant to their daily work, and they will likely identify concrete learning strategies to integrate easily into their existing practice. The book also applies to advisors who work with STEM students in negative academic standing. For example, the

authors explain use of basic brain science (e.g., repetition develops stronger neuropathways, which lead to greater understanding and long-term memory) for use in encouraging students challenged by STEM concepts.

Throughout the book, readers find concrete learning strategies for students, such as simulating the testing environment during exam preparation to improve retention and retrieval of information (p. 131). Other concepts, such as problem-based learning, will have limited applications and primarily benefit advisors who teach technical courses.

The authors place tremendous amounts of attention on the value of collaborative or group learning to improve cognition; however, they fail to discuss the way in which students with specific learning disabilities, such as those on the autism spectrum, experience this pedagogical approach. The book lacks discussion about ways instructors might differentiate learning to meet the needs of unique student populations. Advisors need to keep these student populations in mind when implementing strategies recommended by the authors.

Advisors seeking to expand their toolkit of STEM learning strategies will find a compilation of practical approaches for implementation in a traditional advising appointment, workshop setting, or classroom environment. This book also serves as an excellent means of connecting STEM faculty members and professional advisors with one another through a common reading, and it can be used to create a platform for improving student success on a broad scale.

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59 Seconds: Change Your Life in Under a Minute. (2009). Book by Richard Wiseman. Review by Jennifer Brown. New York, NY: Anchor Books.

320 pp., \$15.95 (paperback). ISBN 978-0-307-47486-5.

101 Things to Do Before You Graduate. (2011). Book by Patricia Hudak and Jullien Gordon. Review by Anne M. London. n.p.: Real World Media. 256 pp., \$19.95 (paperback). ISBN 978-0-984518-4-5.

All American. (2013). Book by Steve Eubnaks. Review by Jennifer F. Lewis. New York, NY: Harper Collins. 304 pp., \$27.00. ISBN 978-0-06-220280-2.

Brain on Fire: My Month of Madness. (2012). Book by Susannah Cahalan. Review by Matthew Hoekstra. New York, NY: Simon and Schuster. 288 pp., \$16.00 (paperback). ISBN 978-1-4516-2138-9.

College Success and You: Achieving Your Goals. (2015). Book by Malcolm Kahn and Sue Kahn. Review by Heather Valentine. Erie, PA: Larson Texts. \$79.99 (paperback). ISBN 978-1-9382-6015-5.

Creating a Sense of Presence in Online Teaching: How to "Be There" for Distance Learners. (2010). Book by Rosemary M. Lehman and Simone C.O. Conceicao. Review by Julie Enciso. San Francisco, CA: Wiley. 143 pp., \$32.00 (paperback). ISBN 978-0-470-56490-5.

Effective Instruction for STEM Disciplines: From Learning Theory to College Teaching. (2011). Book by Edward J. Mastascusa, William J. Snyder, and Brian S. Hoyt. Review by Nova Schauss. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass. 288 pp., \$42.00. ISBN 978-0-470-47445-7.

Facilitating Group Learning: Strategies for Success with Diverse Adult Learners. (2010). Book by George Lakey. Review by Rebecca Rowilson. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass. 304 pp., \$42.00. ISBN 978-0-470-76863-1.

Generation iY: Our Last Chance to Save Their Future. (2010). Book by Tim Elmore. Review by Marisa J. Stevenson. Atlanta, GA: Poet Gardner. 228 pp., \$16.99 (paperback). ISBN 978-0-578-06355-3.

Getting From College to Career. (2015). Book by Lindsey Pollak. Review by Jill Flees. New York,

NY: Harper Collins. 326 pp., \$16.99 (paperback). ISBN 978-0-06-206927-6.

The Girls of Atomic City: The Untold Story of the Women Who Helped Win World War II. (2013). Book by Denise Kiernan. Review by Matt Church. Bend, OR: Books in Common. 416 pp., \$16.00 (paperback). ISBN 978-1-4516-1753-5.

Habitudes for The Journey: Images That Form Leadership Habits & Attitudes. (2013). Book by Tim Elmore. Review by Gabby Steinbrenner. Norcross, GA: Growing Leaders. 92 pp., \$15.00 (paperback). ISBN 978-0-9886201-0-0.

Half the Sky: Turning Oppression Into Opportunity for Women Worldwide. (2009). Book by Nicholas D. Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn. Review by Lauren McCarthy. New York, NY: Knopf Doubleday. 318 pp., \$15.95 (paperback). ISBN 978-0-307-38709-7.

How Children Succeed. (2012). Book by Paul Tough. Review by Comfort M. Sumida. New York, NY: Mariner. 231 pp., \$15.95 (paperback). ISBN 978-0-544-10440-2.

In Search of Self: Exploring Student Identity Development. (2014). Book by Chad Hanson (Ed.). Review by LeighMarie Weber. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass. 120 pp. \$22.61 (paperback). ISBN 978-1-118-91508-0.

Inclusive Teaching: Presence in the Classroom. (2014). Book by Cornell Thomas (Ed). Review by Heather Zeng. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass. 88 pp., \$29.00 (paperback). ISBN 978-1-119-03647-0.

Incognito: The Secret Lives of the Brain. (2011). Book by David Eagleman. Review by Kathy Zarges. New York, NY: Knopf Doubleday. 291 pp., \$15.95 (paperback). ISBN 978-0-307-38992-3.

Increasing Persistence: Research-Based Strategies for College Student Success. (2012). Book by Wesley R. Habley, Jennifer L. Bloom, and Steve Robbins. Review by Tim Fricker. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass. 512 pp., \$50.00. ISBN 978-0-470-88843-8.

Learning As a Way of Leading: Lessons from the Struggle for Social Justice. (2009). Book by

Stephen Preskill and Stephen D. Brookfield. Review by Jay Fuller. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass. 272 pp., \$45.00. ISBN 978-0-7879-7807-5.

A Legal Guide for Student Affairs Professionals (2nd ed.). (2009). Book by William A. Kaplin and Barbara A. Lee. Review by Michelle M. White. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass. 864 pp., \$98.00. ISBN 978-0-470-43393-5.

Life After Graduation: Your Guide to Success. (2014). Book by Terry Arndt and Kirrin Coleman. Review by Sheriece L. Robinson. Bainbridge Island, WA: College Transition Publishing. 128 pp. \$29.95 (paperback). ISBN 978-0-9848332-3-8.

Life During College: Your Guide to Success. (2014). Book by Terry Arndt and Kirrin Coleman. Review by Sammi Kaiser. Bainbridge Island, WA: Life After Graduation LLC. 176 pp., \$29.95 (paperback). ISBN 978-0-98478332-5-2.

Manufacturing Morals: The Values of Silence in Business School Education. (2013). Book by Michel Anteby. Review by Ariel Bloomer. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press. 248 pp., \$25.00. ISBN 978-0-226-09247-8.

Planning and Assessment in Higher Education: Demonstrating Institutional Effectiveness. (2010). Book by Michael F. Middaugh. Review by Jamie Reynolds. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass. 256 pp., \$42.00. ISBN 978-0-470-40090-6.

"Radical Academia?" Understanding the Climates for Campus Activists. (2014). Book by Christopher J. Broadhurst and Georgianna L. Martin (Eds.). Review by Melissa A. Jones. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass. 92 pp., \$29.00 (paperback). ISBN 978-1-118-96656-3.

The State of the College Union: Contemporary Issues and Trends. (2014). Book by Tamara Yakaboski and Danielle M. De Sawal (Eds.). Review by Anthony Smothers. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass. 112 pp., \$29.00 (paperback). ISBN 978-1-118-87888-0.

Undergraduate Global Education: Issues for Faculty, Staff, and Students. (2014). Book by Ann Highum (Ed.). Review by Kathryn Timm. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass. 112 pp., \$23.99 (paperback). ISBN 978-1-118-91505-9.

Undocumented: A Dominican Boy's Odyssey From a Homeless Shelter to the Ivy League. (2015). Book by Dan-El Padilla Peralta. Review by Janis S. Albright. New York, NY: Penguin. 309 pp., \$27.95 (paperback). ISBN 978-1-59420-652-8.

What Color is Your Parachute? (2014). Book by Richard N. Bolles. Review by Amy Wilkens. New York, NY: Crown. 353 pp., \$29.99. ISBN 978-1-60774-556-3.

What Color is Your Parachute? Guide to Rethinking Interviews. (2014). Book by Richard N. Bolles. Review by Stephanie Soto. Emeryville, CA: Ten Speed Press. 112 pp., \$12.99 (paperback). ISBN 978-1-60774-659-1.

What Color is Your Parachute? Guide to Rethinking Resumes. (2014). Book by Richard N. Bolles. Review by Robert A. Johnson. Emeryville, CA: Ten Speed Press. 112 pp., \$12.99 (paperback). ISBN 978-1-60774-657-7.

Why Do I Have To Take This Course? A Student Guide to Making Smart Educational Choices (2005). Book by Robert Shoenberg. Review by Stacey Borboa-Peterson. Washington, DC: Association of American Colleges and Universities. 27 pp., \$12.00 (paperback). ISBN 0-9763576-5-8.

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