

## Motivation In The Classroom

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### ABSTRACT

Every educator dreams with the perfect class: students asking questions, participating in discussions, doing their homework and studying their lessons, but as soon as they enter the classroom, the same difficulties and challenges are faced daily: trying to make students pay attention, keeping them engaged in class; this may sound an impossible mission because students always have their reasons and excuses, but teaching can be a wonderful experience, its only about motivation, it will improve your student's performance through the teaching-learning process making it relaxing and interesting. There are so many techniques and strategies that if they are planned and applied appropriately, you will definitely be remembered as the best teacher ever.

**Keywords:** motivation, teaching-learning process, collaborative learning, educational coaching.

### Introduction

We often hear expressions like, "students do not participate" "they are not interested in the class," "they do other subjects' tasks" "they don't pay attention and talk" and many other phrases; what can we do to avoid these students' behavior during the development of our classes?

The answer is: **motivation**, which refers to factors and incentives that drive human beings to take action based on the will, desire and interest to achieve goals.

According to Dr. Palmero (2008), motivation is related to the force, persistence and behavior preferences.

There are two types of motivation:

- Extrinsic, which refers to motivation that comes from the outside and may involve external rewards such as good grades, fame, or simple words of admiration and appreciation which provide sufficient reason to strive, meet and complete the task.
- Intrinsic, born inside the person for the purpose of self-realization and personal growth, the most illustrative example is volunteering.

(Tallon, 2005) indicates that motivation in education, refers to those forces that encourage students to listen to what is taught in the class, ask questions, undertake assigned tasks, research, experiment and learn by discovery constructively and significantly.

### Simple Strategies That May Apply

Teachers can apply some simple strategies that have proven been effective.

- Show enthusiasm and energy every time they enter the classroom, this attitude is definitely contagious and positive. The right climate in the classroom will allow a faster achievement and is a decisive factor in the success of the teaching-learning process.
- Praise students, always emphasizing their strengths and not their weaknesses, in this way self-esteem will be

improved and they will be more relaxed and confident in class, sometimes a few words of encouragement can achieved unexpected results. In cases of underperforming learners, additional tasks are recommended or an individual tutoring in which a permanent monitoring, a detailed record of progress and frequent assessment is performed.

- Encourage creativity in students by promoting activities where they can develop their imagination and demonstrate the originality of their projects and ideas. There are many exercises to achieve inventive skills, for example an activity that I always do the first day of class: divide the class into groups, give each group a common object, whether it is a CD, a clip, a rubber band or a coin and ask them to find 60 different uses for each object, surprisingly they always succeed!
- Promote teamwork, encouraging collaborative learning, healthy competition and strengthening the bonds of friendship, cordiality and respect.
- Empower students, this has proved to be a very effective strategy, since by assigning responsibilities to students and allowing them to actively participate in making certain decisions; they will feel that their opinions are important, valued and taken into consideration.
- Set individual and general short-term goals and evaluate the results together, offering prizes to the effort and allowing them to enjoy their success.
- Organize frequent dynamics in class; during these activities students can relax and take a break from routine, creating a fun atmosphere of complicity, camaraderie and support. Dynamics are efficient tools that can be used to develop many values and virtues but careful planning is needed, previously defining their objectives and then evaluating the results.



*Source:* Students from the 6<sup>th</sup> semester of the Business Management Career.  
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A teacher must prepare him/herself and permanently and be trained in the new educational trends and methodologies, in order to offer students a superlative quality, integrated holistical education: academic, professional and personal.

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