

Philosophy of Education

By Wesley L. Stewart

Education is a collective learning process for both student and educator. Teaching methods should never become stagnant, but must constantly evolve into something new and exciting. Education should provide wisdom – both analytical and critical thinking skills - without suppressing curiosity. Fundamental knowledge and skills are crucial in any discipline and are taught as such in my classroom, in a fun and insightful way. These skills and knowledge have both applications in and outside the classroom, no matter the discipline. My knowledge and expertise of art is based upon being a professor, a student, and a professional artist.

My role as an educator is to imbue an understanding and appreciation of art through history, style, formal content and context, vocabulary, as well as analysis of the artworks, period, and artists. This is done by presenting the class in an enjoyable way so students will learn through critical thinking skills during lectures, discussions, demonstrations, and hands on experiences. The students' role is to take responsibility for learning the necessary processes, vocabulary, methods, and materials in the classroom and apply it in the form of examinations, discussions, group projects, museum visits, and creating artwork. This knowledge goes beyond the classroom when looking at art websites, documentaries, art lectures, visiting other countries and cultures.