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Module 0: Orientation

Workshop Materials - College Teaching and the
Development of Reasoning

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Module 0: Orientation - Overview

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Module 0

Orientation

Welcome to the Workshop on College Teaching and the Development of Reasoning. This Orientation Module describes the overall program for the sessions.

The two main ideas to be covered are stages of development and self-regulation from Piaget's theory of learning. These are applied to college teaching. The special features of this workshop are:

1. It is relatively self-paced with suggested time schedules.
2. You, the participant, are encouraged to be actively involved.
3. There are few formal group presentations. Small group discussions and interactions with staff are available to you.

The special hazards of this format are:

1. Dawdling. There is a great deal of material in the modules. We urge you not to spend all your time on one module. Please exchange ideas frequently with one another and the staff.
2. Confusion. This flexible approach may cause confusion about what to do next or where to go or what is expected. Whenever you feel in limbo, contact a staff member for help.
3. Passivity. Your active engagement is essential to the workshop.

The special opportunity of this format is that you may apply your own valuable experience as a college teacher to solving our common problems of improvement of college teaching.

This workshop consists of eleven modules that involve individual and interactive activities to introduce you to Piaget's ideas and their usefulness for developing reasoning and understanding by your students. The titles of the modules are:

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|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. How People Reason | 7. Analysis of Textbooks |
| 2. Concrete and Formal Reasoning | 8. Self-Regulation |
| 3. Formal Reasoning Patterns | 9. The Learning Cycle |
| 4. Interviews of College Students | 10. Teaching Goals and Strategies |
| 5. College Student Research Findings | 11. Implementation and Suggested |
| 6. Analysis of Text Questions | Readings |