

Teaching Traps, Transitions, and Connections: Providing Context to Make the Content Meaningful

When teaching any psychology course, finding relevant content is very easy. Helping students appreciate themes and connections throughout a course is much more difficult. We will discuss some subtle but important ways you can provide context for the content that encourage students to discover and make meaningful connections. Along the way, we will point out some common “teaching traps” – situations where we feel “stuck” in a dissatisfying or ineffective approach to teaching we feel powerless to change. By the end of the session, participants will have a better understanding of how to avoid common teaching traps and will be better-equipped to help their students view psychology as an integrated science.