

Guidelines for developing a meaningful learning plan

Criteria

Here are some criteria to use when deciding on a meaningful self-directed learning project or a learning plan. A good self-directed learning project or plan should have each of these attributes.

- builds on your strengths and interests;
- serves a purpose in your work and life;
- comes from an inner drive;
- responds to your needs rather than the needs and expectations of others;
- offers you a challenge;
- provides an opportunity to pursue excellence or to better yourself;
- is congruent with your values and sense of personal integrity.

Questions to consider

1. Will I learn something new and worthwhile?
2. Will this help me become a better facilitator of students' learning?
3. Is this worthy of a significant investment of time and energy?
4. Is this consistent with current educational policy and the principles of learning?
5. Is this clear enough that I can identify specific practices I want to try?
6. Is this manageable within the time available?