The Upside of Teaching: Finding Success in Failure

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It is impossible to live without failing at something, unless you live so cautiously that you might as well not have lived at all, in which case you have failed by default.”

J.K. Rowling

https://www.ted.com/talks/jk_rowling_the_fringe_benefits_of_failure/discussion
1. Consider examples of teaching ‘failure’

2. Articulate how failure can be used to support learning and growth

3. Describe strategies, including reflective practice, to use failure to develop your teaching
Experiencing Failure

Finding Success

**WHO'S AFFECTED BY FOOD INSECURITY?**

- **46.8%** of Nunavut Households (Tarasuk, 2017)
- **11.9%** of Ontario Households (Tarasuk, 2017)
- **1 in 4 Renters** (PROOF, 2018)
- **1 in 8 Canadian Households** (PROOF, 2018)
- **1/3 female single parent households are food insecure** (PROOF, 2018)
- **1.15 million Canadian children** (PROOF, 2018)

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Learning from our mistakes
Analyzing failure and using it to develop better ideas, better designs, is the key to future success (Petroski, 2018)

A snapshot of failure review articles:

- Cancer Tx failure (Yu, Cao, Shen, & Feng, 2015),
- Hepatitis Tx failure (Klag & Langley, 2014),
- Distance Ed failures (Abadi & Rehfeldt, 2016)
- Design & Engineering failure (Petroski, 2018).
- Organizational failure (Maitlis & Lawrence, 2003)
Reflection-in-action

Reflection-on-action

Donald Schon, 1983
I’ve missed more than 9000 shots in my career. I’ve lost almost 300 games. 26 times, I’ve been trusted to take the game winning shot and missed. I’ve failed over and over and over again in my life. And that is why I succeed.”

— Michael Jordan
Experiential Learning

Process whereby knowledge is created through the transformation of experience (Kolb, 1983)
Document Lessons learned – after class/course

Debrief (peer- mentor)

In the moment: Acknowledge the Failure

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What will you do
References


