

# Prerequisites for Efficient Didactic Teaching

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# #1. A Culture that supports learning must exist.

The culture must think that learning is important.

The culture must value what is being taught.

The culture must provide the social structures that create proper order in the classroom and respect for the teacher.

The teacher must also display the proper respect for the students in return.

#2. All students must have the necessary background knowledge required to understand the material to be presented.

If not, remedial instruction must be provided.

*#3. All students must have a well-developed curiosity about the material to be taught.*

*If this curiosity is not present, the teacher must help create it.*

*If it is present, the teacher must feed it.*

#4. All of the students in the group must be able to assimilate the material at approximately the same speed.

If the students have vastly different learning speeds, the teacher will be stuck presented the material either too fast or too slow for some of the students.

#5. The material to be taught must be of the type that lends itself to Didactic Teaching.

Certain abstract subjects such as Mathematics are ideally suited.

Other material, such as how to build a fire, can only be fully learned through other teaching styles. Short tidbits of didactic teaching may be helpful, but should be part of a mix of several teaching styles used in combination.

#6. The teacher must understand the material at a level deep enough to give explanations and analogies that hold up to future learning.

Improper analogies can create flawed schema.

#7. The teacher must possess the teaching skills required to make Didactic Teaching effective.

Teaching is a skill quite separate from simply mastering the content to be taught. The teacher must actually know how to *teach*.

#8. The material must be taught in context so that learning can be properly integrated into larger schema instead of becoming bits of disconnected information.

Information that is not taught in context is quickly forgotten.

Experiential context is far superior to abstract context alone.

# The Eight Prerequisites

1. A culture that supports learning
2. Students that have proper academic preparation
3. Curiosity from the students
4. Students with similar learning abilities
5. Material that lends itself to didactic teaching
6. Mastery of the material by the teacher
7. A teacher with good didactic teaching skills
8. Curriculum that is properly integrated into the larger context