

Teaching For Success 4.0

Success Insights

Order and Sequence

Are you in control of sequence? If not, who or what is? This is a fundamental success question. I'm convinced that one of the fundamental keys to success is possessing the courage to take control, assume responsibility and accept consequences.

When you decide to take control of instructional or life events, you choose a far different life path than chosen by those who waste their time and energy on blaming, creating imaginative excuses and finding fault.

A life of great achievement, like outstanding instruction, results from a controlled sequence of small events that, chosen intelligently and purposefully, add up to something significant. The more you must do and the more tasks and responsibilities you have, the more you need to develop superb sequentiality--a key component of management--a critical success factor of life and teaching.

David Foster art instructor retired, Lake Tahoe Community College, has developed superb sequentiality in his teaching and in his life as an artist. He is always focused on the future he is creating. As an accomplished sculptor, working with bronze and marble, he is a teacher who can teach and do, earning him mammoth respect with his students.

David is a *tour de force* for art in the Lake Tahoe region. He created and lead an outstanding art department, taught a full-time load of art classes, raised four children, build his own home and studio and has continuously developed his artistic talents and is highly respected internationally among his fellow sculptors of marble and the community.

"He's just lucky," you say? Not a chance. A list of personal and professional achievements such as this doesn't come easy. It rests on a foundation of clear purpose, solid character, an acceptance of responsibility, a focus on the future and superb sequentiality. David is a master of ordering his life for success and determining the best sequentiality for the completion of his work. The results are spectacular.

Mastering sequentiality and order in instruction is a valuable gift for students. Such refined management skills make it possible for students to progress rapidly unhindered by learning of superfluous content or the frustration of being assigned tasks the students have not been prepared to do accomplish.

~John H, (Jack) Shrawder, Exec. Director,
TFS Faculty Success Center