

# Active Learning

Didactic strategies to make  
students responsible for  
their own learning

Richard Marz

[richard.maerz@meduniwien.ac.at](mailto:richard.maerz@meduniwien.ac.at)



# Vermont Medical School Says Goodbye To Lectures



npr

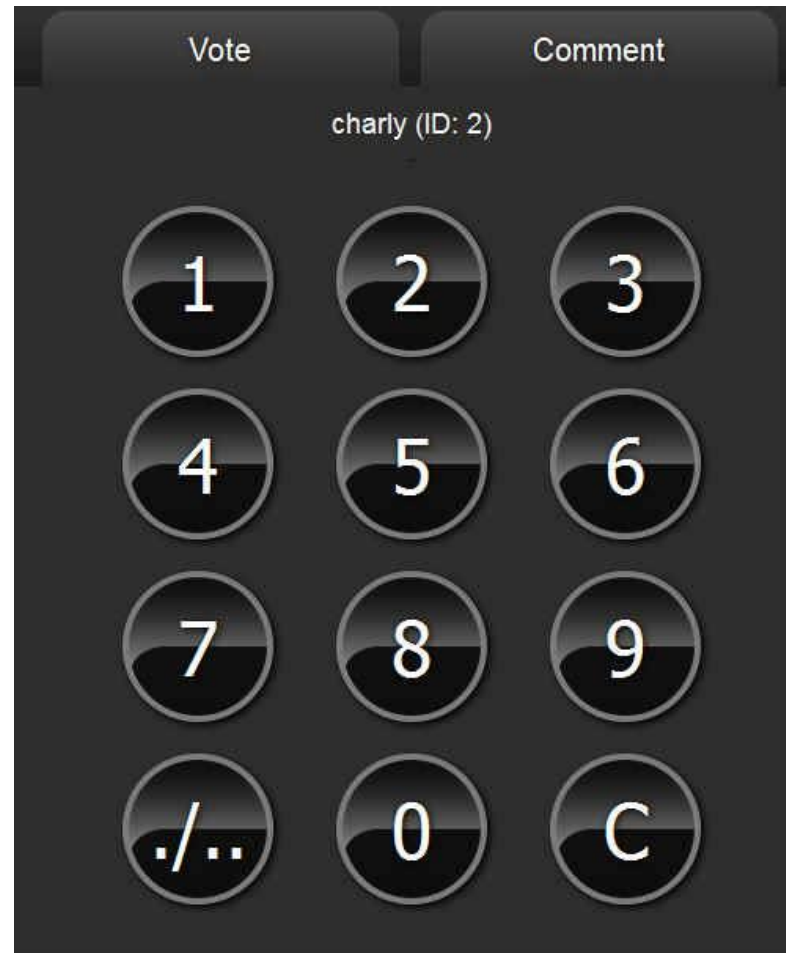
August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017

<http://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2017/08/03/541411275/vermont-medical-school-says-goodbye-to-lectures>

# Handset



# Smartphone



# Active learning

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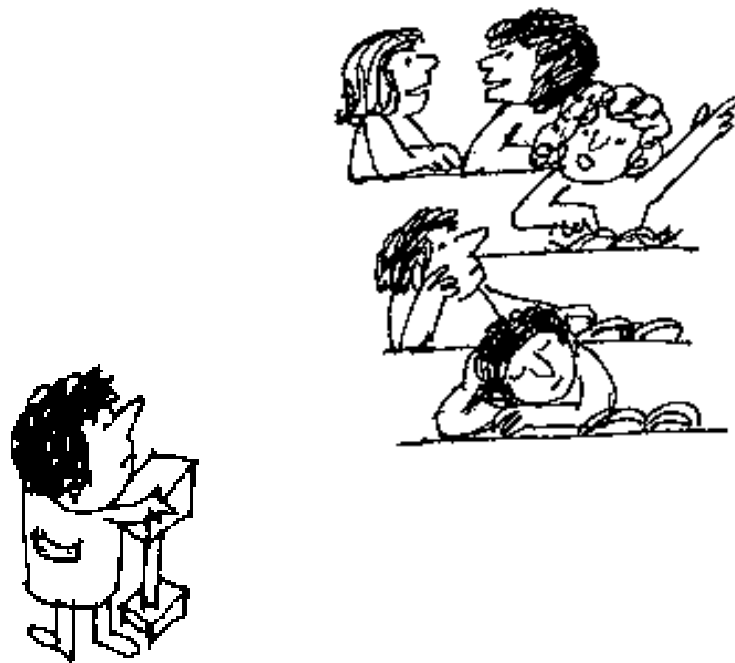
Learning is not a spectator sport



 Cees van der Vleuten  
University of Maastricht, 1999

Education is governed  
by tradition and intuition

# Evidence on teaching and learning





New York Times: Oct 17, 2017

# An Experiment on Transfer

*Group 1:* Read the problem -  
Was given solutions

*Group 2:* Read the problem -  
Attempt to problem-solve

*Group 3:* Read the problem -  
Attempt to problem-solve -  
Was given solutions

# Did transfer take place?

- Group 1:* Read the problem -  
Was given solutions  
**No transfer - 10% success**
- Group 2:* Read the problem -  
Attempt to problem-solve  
**Spontaneous transfer - 50% success**
- Group 3:* Read the problem -  
Attempt to problem-solve -  
Was given solutions  
**Informed transfer - 75% success**

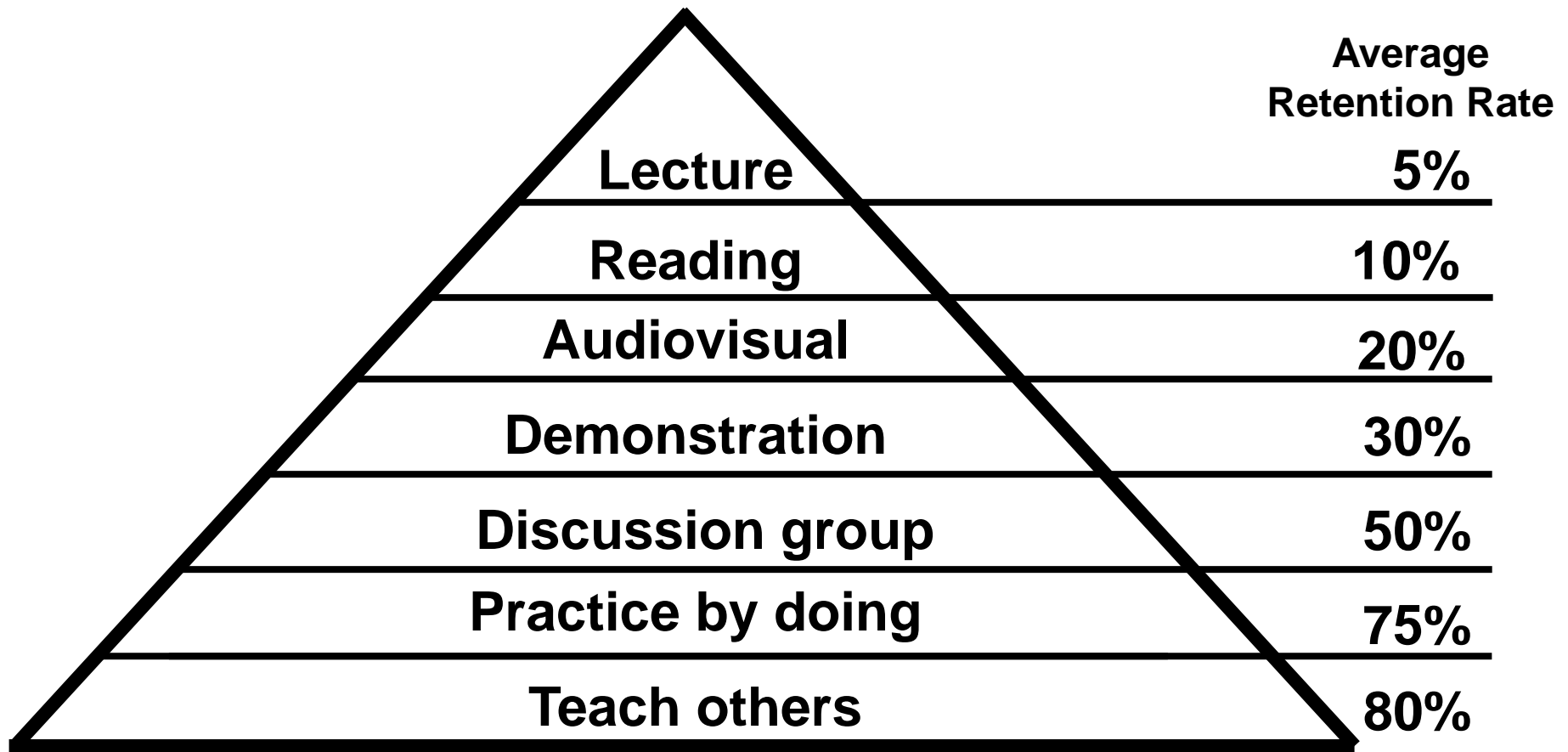
Needham and Begg, 1991



# Assumption

Teaching = Learning

# The Learning Pyramid



National Training Laboratories, Bethel, Maine, USA

# Tomorrow's Doctors, GMC, 2009

- Students are responsible for:



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  - Their own learning, ...

# Nürnberger Trichter



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- Doctors (Teachers) are responsible for:
  - Supervising the students for whom they are responsible, to support their learning and ensure patient safety.
  - Providing feedback on students' performance.

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- **Medical schools are responsible for:**

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- Students are responsible for:
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- Doctors (Teachers) are responsible for:
  - Supervising the students for whom they are responsible, to support their learning and ensure patient safety.
  - Providing feedback on students' performance.
- Medical schools are responsible for:
  - Managing the curriculum and ensuring that appropriate education facilities are provided in the medical school and by other education providers.

# Life-long Learning



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**Self-directed Learning**

# Life-long Learning

Self-directed Learning  
**Directed self-learning**

Life-long Learning

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Directed self-learning

**Flipped class-room**

# Flipped class-room

- Create Pre-class Content
  - ✓ Identify and provide key foundational content
  - ✓ Provide clear learning objectives
  - ✓ Use assessments to make students accountable

# Flipped class-room

- Create Pre-class Content
- Design In-Class Activities
  - ✓ Guide, coach, inspire, and encourage student learning through planned activities that promote higher order thinking and application
  - ✓ Clarify key concepts using micro-lectures lasting 1-3 minutes
  - ✓ Assess student learning
  - ✓ Don't add more content
  - ✓ Be flexible

# Flipped class-room

- Create Pre-class Content
- Design In-Class Activities
- Assess Student Learning
  - Formative, summative, informal, formal assessment methods
  - ✓ Provide meaningful feedback
  - ✓ Guide future instructional approaches - **Flexibility**
  - ✓ Build student confidence

# Flipped class-room

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- **Design In-Class Activities**
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  - ✓ Be flexible
- Assess Student Learning

# Vermont Med School Says Goodbye To Lectures



# Vermont Med School Says Goodbye To Lectures

Lectures will be replaced with online material and/or readings. Thus all primary information delivery will be removed from the classroom. Faculty lectures online will be streamlined and reduced in length to retain student engagement. ... The average lecture delivered in class can be rendered to a 20-35 minute presentation online.

William Jeffries, Associate Dean, 2017

# Vermont Med School Says Goodbye To Lectures (2)

- Lectures are replaced by other didactic methods which encourage active learning
- Students engage in active learning
- Student learning is guided by detailed learning objectives
- Staff development

# Vermont Med School Says Goodbye To Lectures (3)

Lectures are replaced by other didactic methods which encourage active learning

- Team-based Learning (TBL)
- Small Group Learning
  - ✓ Clinical case scenarios
  - ✓ Specific learning objectives
  - ✓ Students work collaboratively
  - ✓ Use of Evidence Based Medicine Worksheet
- Flipped Classroom with Readiness Quiz
  - ✓ Learning objectives are posted prior to each session
  - ✓ Quiz must be completed by 11:59pm before class

# Vermont Med School Says Goodbye To Lectures (4)

## More didactic methods to encourage active learning

- Workshops with Readiness Quiz
- Anatomy Modules with Readiness Quiz
- Imaging Modules (correlate with course material)
- Embryology Modules (correlate with course material)
- Integration Sessions
  - ✓ Clinical Problems covered by clinical Faculty
- Organizing Information from the week
- Formative Quizzes
- Doctoring Skills
  - ✓ Standardized patients and other faculty

# Vermont Med School Says Goodbye to Lectures (5)

## Students engage in active learning

We had averaged about 20 hrs per week of lecture 7 years ago, and now we are down to less than 10 (less than 30% of contact time). This will end up with an average of 60 total hours of work for foundations students with about 20-30 hours in class and 30-40 hours of preparations time allotted.

William Jeffries, Associate Dean, 2017

# Vermont Med School Says Goodbye to Lectures (6)

Student learning is guided by detailed

**Learning objectives**

# Student learning is guided by detailed learning objectives

## Cell / Organ Systems

### Physiology / Pathophysiology

Apply understanding of basic functions, key regulatory mechanisms, major interactions between systems, and appropriate testing to explain disease and injury

Vermont Integrated Curriculum, November 1999

Apply understanding of basic functions, key regulatory mechanisms, major interactions between systems, and appropriate testing to explain disease and injury

## Foundations Competencies

*Comprehension.* Discuss...

appropriate functional tests to define the pathophysiology of the gastrointestinal/hepatic system

*Analysis.* Explain...

function and key regulatory mechanisms of the gastrointestinal/hepatic system, including secretion, digestion, absorption, motility, regulation, liver and biliary function



Apply understanding of basic functions, key regulatory mechanisms, major interactions between systems, and appropriate testing to explain disease and injury

## Clerkship Competencies

*Analysis.* Explain...

signs of fetal distress, including electronic fetal heart tracings and peripheral fetal blood gases in terms of the potential metabolic changes occurring in the fetus

# Vermont Med School Says Goodbye to Lectures (7)

## Staff development

# Staff development (1)

Faculty have to convert their lectures to active learning. We have allotted paid time to do this. We also have created the **Teaching Academy**, which will provide the expertise for active learning, etc.

William Jeffries, Associate Dean, 2017

## Staff development (2)

We are also creating a development team, with 2 developers, 2 instructional designers and faculty director of active learning to help convert the entire curriculum.

William Jeffries, Associate Dean, 2017

The purpose of an education is to  
fill vessels and to light fires ...

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fill vessels and to light fires ...

Today we fill the vessels so full,  
they overflow and put out the fire

General Medical Council (GMC), Tomorrow's Doctors, GB, 1993

Factual information must be kept to the essential minimum that students need at this stage of medical education.

General Medical Council (GMC), *Tomorrow's Doctors*, 1993, 2003

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**Less is More**



# 50 Reasons Not To Change



# The job of the teacher ...

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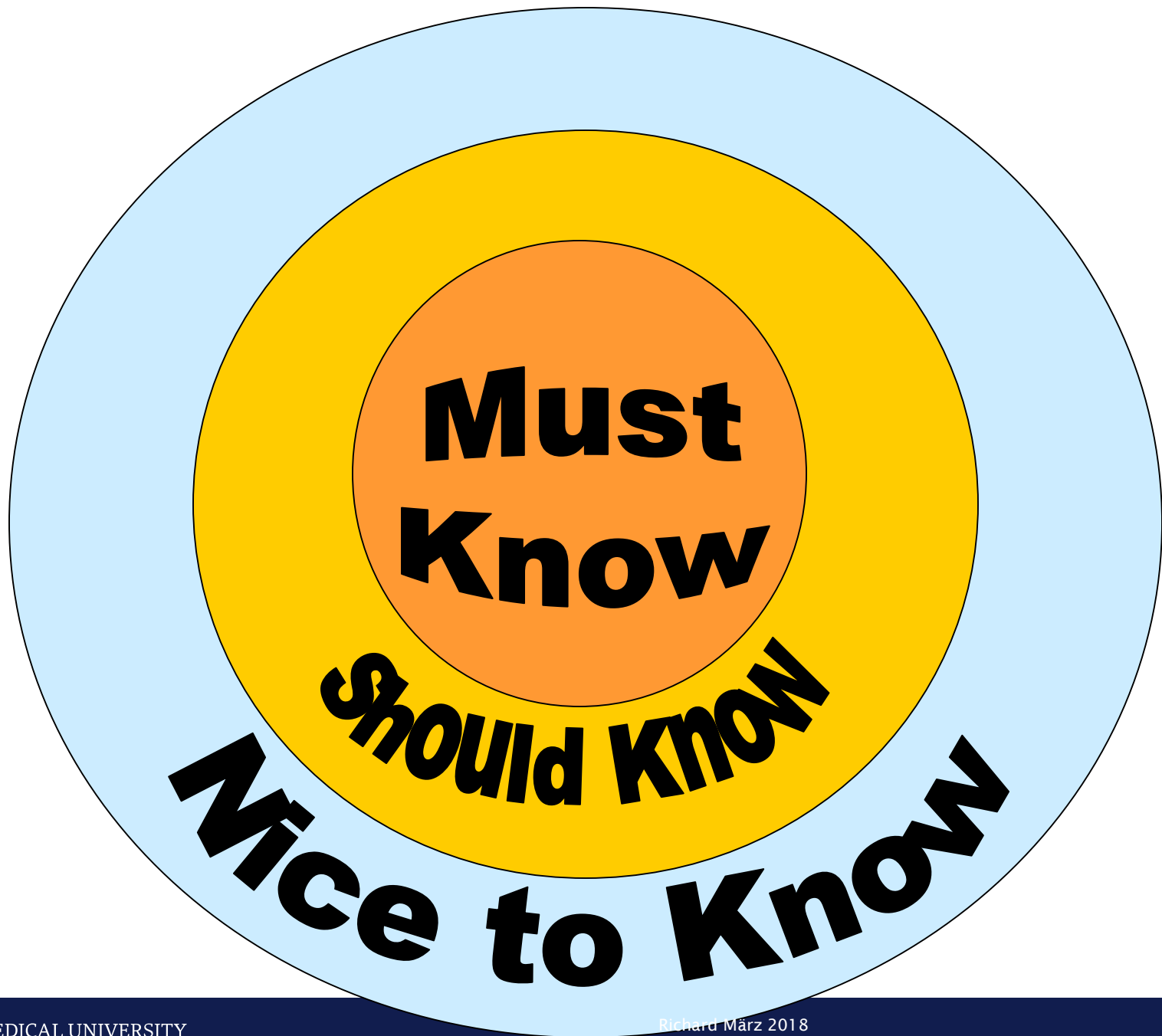
... is to make the task of decision-making so intense, ...

# The job of the teacher ...

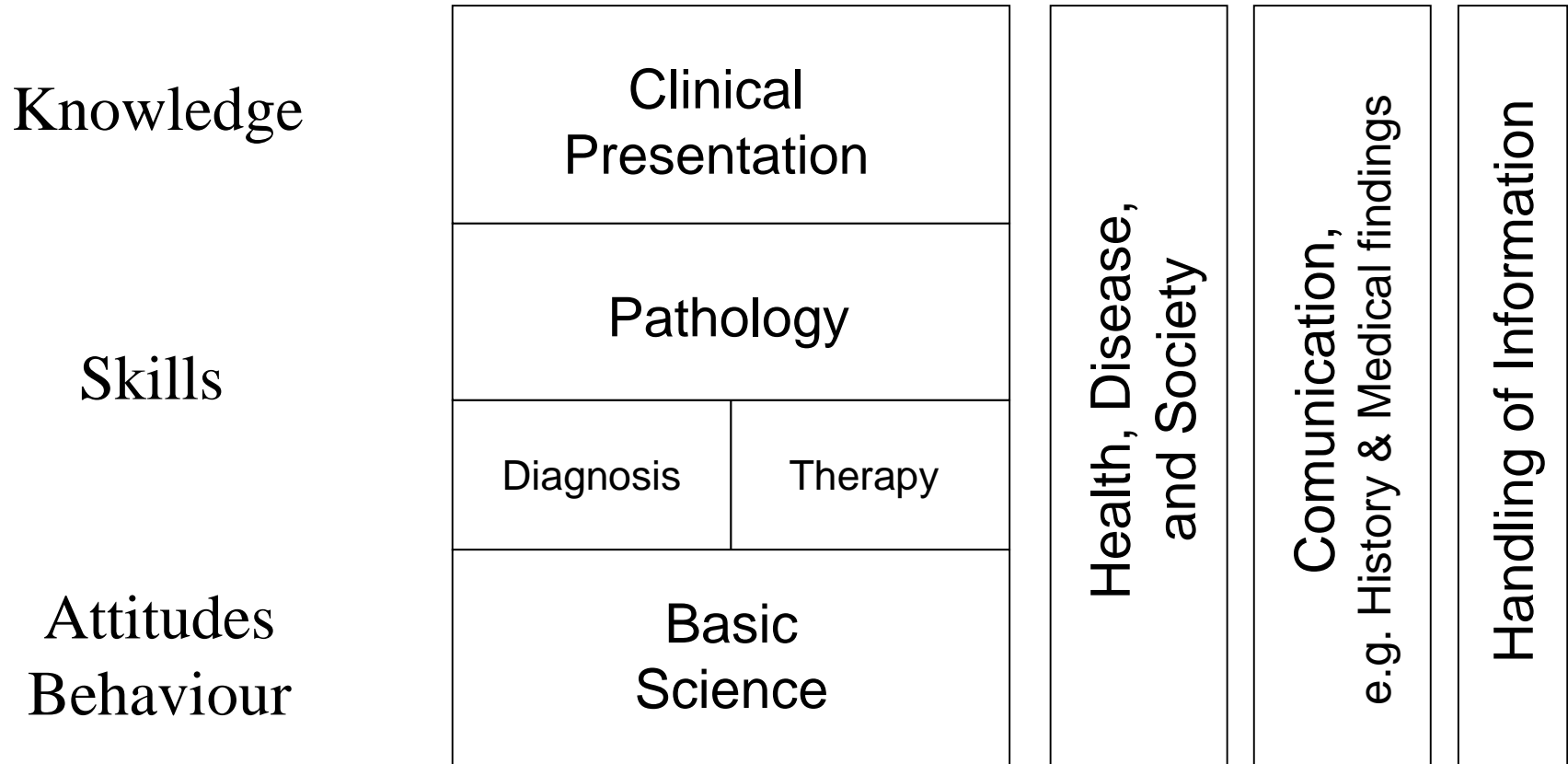
... is to make the task of decision-making so intense, ... so that the student can only escape by thinking.

**T**hank

**Y**ou!



# Contents of a Medical Curriculum



# Professionalism



# Johari Window Luft & Ingram (1955)

	Known to self	Not known to self
Known to others	Known	
Not known to others		

# Johari Window Luft & Ingram (1955)

	Known to self	Not known to self
Known to others	Known	Discovery through Discussion
Not known to others		

# Johari Window Luft & Ingram (1955)

	Known to self	Not known to self
Known to others	Known	Discovery through Discussion
Not known to others	Discovery through Discussion	

# Johari Window Luft & Ingram (1955)

	Known to self	Not known to self
Known to others	Known	Discovery through Discussion
Not known to others	Discovery through Discussion	“Unknown unknowns”