





**ICUCARE: UNDERSTANDING YOUR STUDENTS**  
**VIA THE FOUR LEARNING STYLES**  
 ROBIN HARDEN DANIELS, ED.D.

**THE FOUR LEARNING STYLES** (Silver, Strong, & Perini, 2017)

The Four Learning Styles is a tool that organizes instructional strategies into four distinct categories. Each category reflects the dominant learning preferences of each type of student. It is presented to you today as a compliment to the ICUCARE Framework based on the principle *Understanding your Students*. In this sense understanding is not just a reference to culture, ethnicity, or language, etc., it is also a reference to knowing how your students learn. By using these four styles while teaching, you will increase your ability to engage students and help them learn.

 <b>Mastery Learners</b> Sensory-Thinkers	 <b>Interpersonal Learners</b> Sensory-Feeler	 <b>Understanding Learners</b> Intuitive-Thinker	 <b>Self-Expressive Learners</b> Intuitive-Feeler
<p>Absorb information concretely; processes information sequentially in a step-by step manner</p> <p>Are attracted to practical information and procedures. Enjoy drills, lectures, and demonstrations</p> <p>Useful learning is clearly presented and practical.</p> <p><b>Buzz words: remember and summarize</b></p>	<p>Absorb information concretely, but is interested in how this information relates to people</p> <p>Prefer to learn socially such as through role playing, cooperative learning, discussions, experiences</p> <p>Useful learning is connected to helping people</p> <p><b>Buzz words: relationships</b></p>	<p>Focus on ideas and abstractions; learns by using logic and reasoning</p> <p>Enjoys asking questions and exploring answers</p> <p>Useful learning includes debates, research projects, independent study, asking “Why?”</p> <p><b>Buzz words: explore, analyze, and debate</b></p>	<p>Use creativity and imagination as a means to explore ideas, values options, and multiple ways of doing</p> <p>Useful learning allows for self expression and originality</p> <p><b>Buzz words: Creativity, aesthetics, individuality</b></p>
<p>Learning is enhanced when instruction is modeled, allows time for practice and provides timely and useful feedback</p>	<p>Learning is enhanced when receiving positive attention from teacher</p>	<p>Learning is enhanced when the lesson challenges them to think logically and explain their reasoning</p>	<p>Learning is enhanced when Instruction is open-ended and nonroutine</p>
<p>May disengage if lessons and content are too abstract or open ended without concrete conclusions</p>	<p>May disengage if learning overly relies on independent seatwork and/or lacks real-world application</p>	<p>May disengage if the classroom environment relies too heavily on social learning, group work, collaboration</p>	<p>May disengage if learning is based on rote memorization, drill and practice</p>

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**STRATEGIES COMPATIBLE WITH ONE OF THE FOUR LEARNING STYLES**

<b>Mastery</b>	<b>Interpersonal</b>	<b>Understanding</b>	<b>Self-Expressive</b>
New American Lecture Four Phase Direct Instruction Graduated Difficulty	Reciprocal Learning Jigsaw Coding Community Circle	Concept attainment Mystery Reading for Meaning	Mind's Eye Metaphorical Expression Pattern Maker Inductive Learning

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**STRATEGIES THAT USE ALL FOUR STYLES WITHIN THE SAME LESSON**

**Four Square Note taking Strategy** (encourages active thinking while students read, deepens their capacity to reflect on their skills as readers, allows students to engage the text and explore their own ideas, feelings, and experiences)

Facts (Procedures, timelines, etc.)	Personal Feelings (Text to Self)
Things to Explore (I am asking Why?)	Things that I am thinking about (Text based, What if?)

**Four Square Note taking Strategy | Math & Science**

Steps/Procedures	Questions to be answered by or for you
Facts (What are the facts? What is the evidence that supports your facts? What is missing? What problem do you need to solve?)	Draw it or create something that represents the problem visually