

ABSTRACT

Methods of Teaching Student-
Teachers and the Effect on
their Classroom Behaviour

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This study concerns itself with methods used in teaching student-teachers at teacher-training colleges and teacher-training departments in Jamaica. An awareness of the need for Teacher-educators to emphasize active participation and self direction among student-teachers, and enhance self-directing abilities, gives a rationale for the study. Concepts and research findings which support good adult-learning strategies and enlighten practising adult-educators on andragogical practices are reviewed. The study describes an investigation conducted over a 12 - week period, among a group of 30 Language Arts, Secondary students, at an urban teachers' college. This was aimed at assessing the extent to which student-teachers are responsive to teaching methods. The study combined methods of observation and interviewing. Observation which was carried out over a 12 - week period, lasted for a total of 18 hours. A student interview schedule and a tutor interview schedule were then administered. The data collected and analysed from observation and interview schedules, revealed that teaching-learning methods will influence the degree to which student-teachers will respond to them. Recommendations are offered for the improvement of adult-learning strategies.