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Motivation in eLearning in University study

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Abstract

Motivation is one of the factors affecting a man's life, especially his successes and careers. Such motivation has to do not only with the motivation for learning but also with the motivation for work, for fighting during difficult times. It is very complicated to explain the theory of motivation. There doesn't exist any complex way making possible to describe and explore human needs unequivocally. Intense, there exists a large number of theories trying to explain the concept of motivation.

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1. Motivation

Motivation is one of the factors affecting a man's life, especially his successes and careers. Such motivation has to do not only with the motivation for learning but also with the motivation for work, for fighting during difficult times. It is very complicated to explain the theory of motivation. There doesn't exist any complex way making possible to describe and explore human needs unequivocally. Intense, there exists a large number of theories trying to explain the concept of motivation.

“The motivation in eLearning presents a basic educational problem. Very often foreign researchers take advantage of constructivist learning in relating to his question.

One of the definitions says that motivation may be considered a set of intrinsic and extrinsic factor which

1. Arouse, activate and give energy to human acting and experiencing;
2. Orient such behavior and experience in the certain direction;

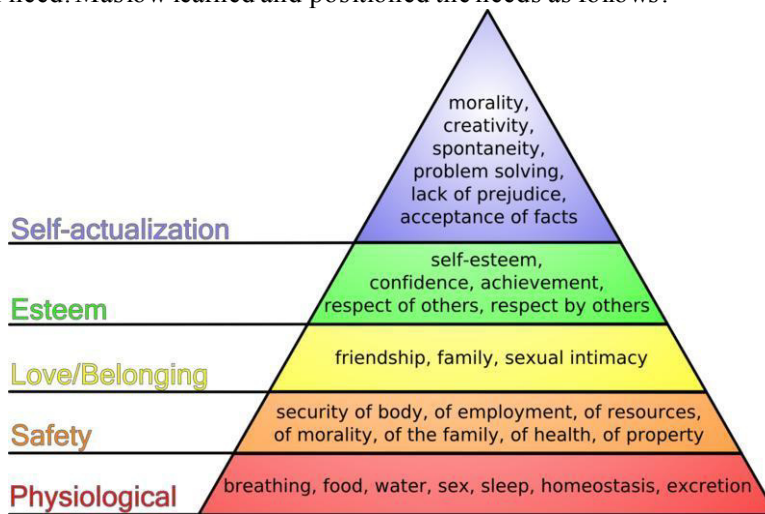
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3. Steer its running, its way of achieving results;
4. Influence an individual person's way of reaction to any acting and experiencing, his relationship with other people and the world.”(Eger, 2013).

With the motivation related to the use of eLearning and the creation of new programs dealt a number of authors. They rely on older and contemporary literature, dealing with motivation in general and some of its specific aspects in eLearning, in some cases in connection with constructivism.

This is the issue quite extensively and thoroughly prepared already in the context of older models of the teaching process, but it is also devoted lot of attention to it in connection with the electronic form of education. This form of learning is new, application of motivation in it requires new solutions. Some authors put it in contrast with the older opinions, others returned to them as to valid for eLearning. Foreign studies, particularly German, are based on the fact that it will be necessary to rethink the electronic form of teaching, revise completely general pedagogy and special didactics and from a new perspective to explain the function - even if yet to be isolated – of some central questions. These include the organization of the curriculum, exams, role of feedback, some still recognized didactic principles, certain methods and of course the didactic function of motivation.

The motivation of individual person's behavior may proceed from inner motives, from his own needs or from an outer impulse. The needs may become apparent in the perception of an inner lack or conversely of a surfeit originating through interrupting of the balanced state of organism. Abraham Harold Maslow has suggested a hierarchy of needs, usually presented in the shape of a pyramid. This American psychologist is proposing that there exist universal needs that every individual person tries to satisfy. We aim to meet almost each human need. Maslow learned and positioned the needs as follows:



http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/c/c3/Maslow%27s_hierarchy_of_needs.png

His concept of the pyramid proceeds from the rule denoting as necessary that we must fulfill a need of lower order first to be able to satisfy a need of higher order.

On the first and crucial floor we may find physiological needs, such as eating, drinking, breathing and excreting. Human body is not able of any long-term existence without meeting those basic needs. The needs of safety supposes the feeling of protection against different risks.

On the third floor of that imaginary pyramid some specific social needs can be found, such as individual person's incorporating in to the society, his need for friendship, his need for loving and being loved. The fourth

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