



- **AI Tools for Automating Medical Coding Tasks**  
**AI Tools for Automating Medical Coding Tasks Blockchain Applications in Healthcare Audits Enhancing EHR Integration for Billing Accuracy Data Encryption Standards in Medical Accounting API Solutions for Real Time Claim Tracking Cybersecurity Risks in Patient Billing Systems Cloud Based Platforms for Revenue Cycle Management Using Predictive Analytics to Prevent Denials Access Control Strategies for PHI Security Telehealth Platforms and Billing Compliance Automating Denial Management with AI Vendor Management for Health IT Systems**
- **Essential Skills for Certified Professional Coders**  
**Essential Skills for Certified Professional Coders Preparing for the AAPC Certification Exam AHIMA Certification Pathways for Medical Coders Continuing Education Requirements for Coders In House Training Programs for Coding Teams Mastering Specialty Specific Coding Guidelines Resources for Staying Updated on CPT Changes Ethics Training for Medical Coding Professionals Building Expertise in Risk Adjustment Coding Workshops for Improving Coding Accuracy Remote Learning Options for Coders Career Advancement in Medical Coding**
- **About Us**



In the rapidly evolving landscape of healthcare, the importance of continuous education cannot be overstated, particularly in the field of medical coding. Medical coders serve as critical links between healthcare providers and insurance companies, ensuring that patient records are accurately translated into standardized codes for billing and statistical purposes. Given the dynamic nature of medical science, regulations, and technology, ongoing education is vital to maintain proficiency and accuracy in this role. In-house training programs for coding teams emerge as a practical solution to meet these educational needs while fostering a collaborative work environment.

Continuous education in medical coding is essential due to several factors. Firstly, coding systems such as ICD (International Classification of Diseases) and CPT (Current Procedural Terminology) are frequently updated to reflect new diseases, treatments, and procedures. Coders must stay abreast of these changes to ensure compliance with legal standards and avoid costly errors or claim denials. Additionally, regulatory requirements from entities like Medicare or private insurers can shift with little notice, necessitating up-to-date knowledge to navigate billing processes effectively.

Medical staffing aligns healthcare services with organizational goals **staffing agency** **medical assistant** health.

In-house training programs offer a strategic advantage by providing tailored educational experiences directly within an organization's operational framework. One significant benefit is customization; internal training can focus on specific aspects relevant to the organization's specialties or address common challenges faced by its team members. This targeted approach enhances learning efficiency and relevance compared to generalized external courses.

Moreover, in-house programs promote team cohesion and communication. By learning together in a familiar environment, coding teams can discuss real-world scenarios they encounter in their daily work. This collaboration fosters peer support networks where team members share insights and strategies for overcoming complex cases or regulatory updates.

Another advantage is cost-effectiveness. While sending employees to external seminars or conferences incurs travel expenses and registration fees, in-house training minimizes these costs while maximizing accessibility for all staff members. Furthermore, internal programs can be scheduled flexibly around operational demands, reducing disruption to workflow.

To implement successful in-house training programs for coding teams, organizations should consider leveraging technology such as e-learning platforms and webinars that allow for both synchronous and asynchronous learning opportunities. Engaging experienced trainers who understand current industry trends alongside organizational needs will also ensure content remains relevant and impactful.

Continuous education through well-structured in-house training not only enhances individual coder expertise but ultimately contributes to the broader goals of improved healthcare delivery and financial performance for providers. By investing in their team's professional development within the workplace context itself-where lessons learned translate immediately into practice-healthcare organizations position themselves at the forefront of quality care provision amidst an ever-changing medical landscape.

Creating effective in-house training programs for coding teams is an essential strategy for any organization wanting to capitalize on its technical talents and maintain a competitive edge in the tech industry. As technology rapidly evolves, the need for continuous learning and skill development becomes paramount. Here are some key components that can ensure the success of such training initiatives.

Firstly, a successful in-house training program must be tailored to meet the specific needs of the team and align with organizational goals. This means conducting a thorough skills assessment to identify gaps and areas for improvement. By understanding what skills are lacking or need enhancement, trainers can create targeted sessions that address these specific needs rather than relying on generic content that might not be relevant.

Secondly, practical application should be at the core of any coding training program. Coding is inherently hands-on; thus, providing opportunities for participants to engage in real-world projects during their training is crucial. This experiential learning approach helps solidify new concepts by allowing coders to apply them immediately, thereby enhancing retention and understanding.

Moreover, leveraging experienced internal resources can greatly benefit an in-house program. Senior developers and engineers within the organization can share their expertise and insights, offering mentorship that external trainers may not provide due to their lack of intimate knowledge about company-specific processes and challenges.

Another critical component is ensuring flexibility within the training schedule to accommodate different learning paces and styles. Everyone learns differently, so offering a mix of workshops, online modules, peer programming sessions, and self-paced coursework allows team members to choose what works best for them without disrupting productivity.

Furthermore, fostering a culture of continuous feedback is vital. Regular check-ins with participants can help gauge how effectively they are absorbing material while also providing insight into areas where improvements could be made within the program itself.

Finally, incentivizing participation through recognition or rewards helps motivate individuals to engage fully with their learning journey. Celebrating milestones or achievements not only boosts morale but also highlights the value placed on professional development within the organization.

In conclusion, an effective in-house training program for coding teams requires careful planning and execution centered around customization, practical engagement, resource utilization, flexibility, feedback loops, and motivation strategies. By implementing these key components thoughtfully, organizations can cultivate highly skilled coding teams capable of driving innovation and achieving business objectives efficiently.

# Key Benefits of Implementing AI Tools for Medical Coding

In the fast-evolving world of technology, coding teams are the backbone of any modern organization, driving innovation and efficiency through their unique skill sets. As such, investing in their continuous development is not just beneficial-it's essential. One of the most effective ways to achieve this is through customizing training modules to suit team needs within in-house training programs. This tailored approach not only enhances learning but also aligns with organizational goals and fosters a culture of growth.

Understanding the distinct requirements of a coding team is pivotal in designing effective training modules. Each team is composed of individuals with varying levels of expertise, different programming languages they specialize in, and diverse project demands. A one-size-fits-all approach to training would therefore be ineffective and could potentially stifle creativity and productivity. Customizing training involves assessing these individual and collective needs through feedback mechanisms, skills assessments, and performance reviews.

Once the specific needs are identified, the next step is to develop content that addresses gaps while building on existing strengths. For example, if a team predominantly works with Python but has upcoming projects that require proficiency in JavaScript, a targeted module focusing on JavaScript fundamentals followed by advanced applications would be ideal. Incorporating real-world scenarios that mimic potential challenges can make these sessions more relatable and engaging for participants.

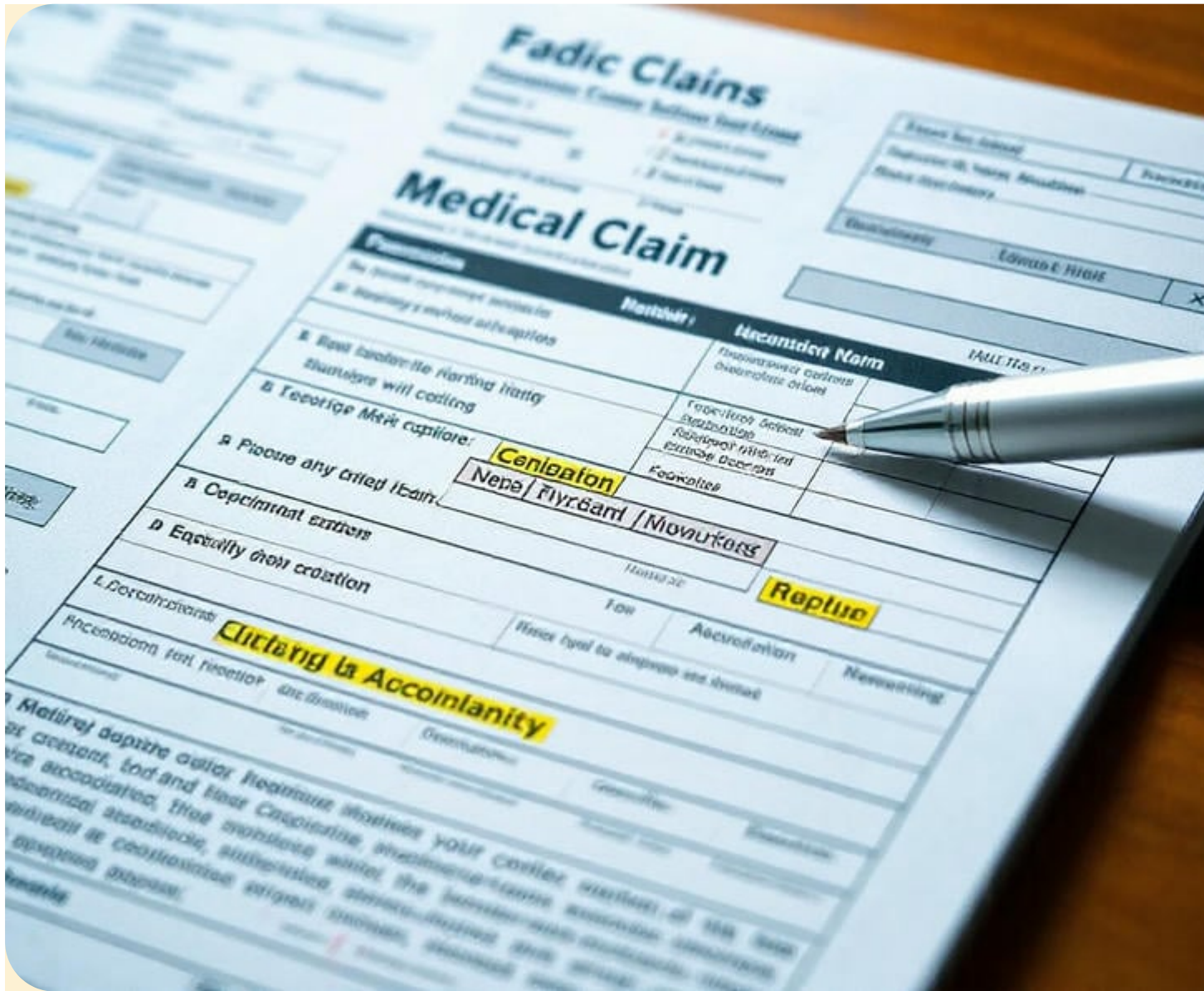
Moreover, customization allows for flexibility in teaching methods which caters to different learning styles. Some team members may prefer hands-on workshops or hackathons where they learn by doing, while others might benefit from structured lectures or interactive online courses. By diversifying delivery methods within training programs, organizations can ensure that all learners have access to resources that resonate with them personally.

The benefits of tailoring training extend beyond immediate skill acquisition; it promotes a sense of value among employees as they recognize their personal growth is being invested in deliberately. This boosts morale and increases retention rates as team members feel more engaged and committed to their roles within the company.

Furthermore, customized training ensures alignment with organizational objectives by directly linking skill development initiatives with strategic goals. For instance, if an organization aims to pioneer developments in artificial intelligence (AI), equipping its coding teams with up-to-date knowledge about AI technologies will be crucial for success.

In conclusion, customizing training modules for coding teams within in-house programs transcends traditional education paradigms by fostering an environment where learning is both relevant and impactful. It empowers individuals through personalized growth opportunities while simultaneously propelling organizational ambitions forward—a win-win scenario for all involved parties. In today's competitive landscape where technological advancements occur at breakneck speed, such strategic investments are not merely advantageous—they are indispensable for sustained success.





# Examples of Popular AI Tools and Solutions for Automating Medical Coding Tasks

In the evolving landscape of technology, the need for efficient and effective coding teams has never been more critical. Companies are increasingly recognizing that a robust in-house training program is a cornerstone for nurturing talent and maintaining competitive advantage. One of the most impactful strategies within these programs is utilizing experienced coders as trainers and mentors. This approach not only enhances the skill set of newer team members but also fosters a culture of continuous learning and collaboration.

Firstly, experienced coders bring a wealth of knowledge that cannot be easily replicated through textbooks or online courses. They have navigated complex projects, solved intricate problems, and adapted to various programming paradigms and technologies over time. By sharing their insights and experiences, they provide invaluable learning opportunities that help newer coders understand real-world applications beyond theoretical knowledge. This kind of mentorship bridges the gap between academic learning and practical application, equipping trainees with skills that are immediately applicable to their roles.

Moreover, having experienced coders as trainers ensures that training content remains relevant and up-to-date with industry standards. The tech world evolves rapidly, with new frameworks and languages emerging regularly. Experienced trainers who are actively engaged in current projects can offer insights into the latest trends and best practices. This allows coding teams to remain agile and responsive to technological advancements, ensuring that they stay at the forefront of innovation.

Mentorship from seasoned professionals also helps foster an environment of trust and open communication within the team. Newer coders may feel overwhelmed by the challenges they face in their early careers; however, having access to mentors who have walked similar paths provides reassurance and guidance. Mentors can offer personalized advice tailored to individual learning styles, which can significantly enhance confidence levels among trainees.

Furthermore, this approach benefits not just those being mentored but also enriches the mentors themselves. Teaching is often one of the best ways to deepen one's own understanding of a subject. As experienced coders explain concepts or debug issues alongside their mentees, they reinforce their own knowledge base while developing leadership abilities-an essential component for career growth in any organization.

Lastly, fostering a mentorship culture promotes loyalty and retention within companies. Employees who feel supported in their professional development are more likely to remain committed to their organizations long-term. They perceive value in being part of an ecosystem where continuous improvement is encouraged-a crucial factor when considering job



satisfaction.

In conclusion, utilizing experienced coders as trainers and mentors within in-house training programs offers multifaceted benefits: it accelerates skill acquisition for newer employees; keeps teams aligned with current industry practices; cultivates an atmosphere conducive to open dialogue; enriches both mentor's expertise along with enhancing trainee's confidence- and ultimately contributes toward building resilient coding teams poised for success amidst ever-changing technological landscapes.

# Case Studies Showcasing Successful AI Integration in Medical Coding Operations

In today's rapidly evolving technological landscape, the importance of incorporating technology and software updates in training, especially within in-house training programs for coding teams, cannot be overstated. The digital world is in a state of constant flux, with new programming languages, development frameworks, and software tools emerging at an unprecedented pace. For coding teams to remain competitive and efficient, staying abreast of these changes is not just beneficial but essential.

In-house training programs offer a unique advantage when it comes to integrating technology and software updates. Unlike generic external courses that might lag behind current trends or fail to address specific organizational needs, customized in-house programs can be tailored to reflect the latest advancements that are directly relevant to the team's projects. This targeted approach ensures that team members are equipped with the most up-to-date skills and knowledge.

Moreover, these programs can foster a culture of continuous learning within the organization. By regularly updating training materials to include the latest technological developments,

companies can encourage their coding teams to adopt a mindset of lifelong learning. This not only improves individual skill sets but also enhances overall team performance and innovation capability.

Implementing regular software updates within training sessions also helps avoid technical debt—a common issue where outdated technologies lead to increased maintenance costs over time. By ensuring that team members are familiar with the latest versions of their tools and platforms, organizations can maintain high efficiency and reduce potential risks associated with obsolete software.

Additionally, incorporating technology updates into training allows for better alignment with industry standards. Coding teams trained on cutting-edge technologies are well-positioned to implement best practices in their work processes. This alignment not only boosts productivity but also improves product quality and client satisfaction.

However, successfully integrating technology updates into in-house training requires strategic planning. Organizations must first assess which technologies will provide the most value for their specific context. They should also establish a mechanism for tracking industry trends and predicting which tools or languages will gain traction in the future.

Once this groundwork is laid out, creating engaging and interactive training modules becomes crucial. Hands-on workshops, coding challenges using new tools, or collaborative projects that simulate real-world applications can significantly enhance learning outcomes compared to traditional lecture-based approaches.

Furthermore, feedback loops should be established within these programs so that trainers can continuously refine content based on participant input and evolving technological landscapes. This dynamic approach ensures that training remains relevant over time while adapting quickly to any unforeseen shifts in tech trends.

In conclusion, integrating technology and software updates into in-house training for coding teams offers numerous benefits—from keeping pace with rapid technological change through fostering continuous learning cultures down to improving operational efficiencies by mitigating technical debt risks among others—it represents an indispensable strategy towards building resilient agile organizations capable of thriving amidst uncertainties. The modern digital era presents us today!

# Potential Risks and Ethical Considerations in Using AI for Medical Coding

In the fast-paced world of technology, where coding teams serve as the backbone of innovation and development, the success of in-house training programs is paramount. These programs not only aim to enhance technical skills but also foster collaboration and adaptability among team members. To truly measure their success and impact, we must look beyond mere completion rates or test scores and delve into a more comprehensive set of metrics that reflect both individual growth and collective achievements.

Firstly, assessing the effectiveness of a training program involves evaluating its alignment with organizational goals. For coding teams, this means ensuring that the curriculum is tailored to address current project needs and future challenges. Success can be measured by examining the reduction in time-to-market for new features or products following the training. If team members are able to implement complex algorithms more efficiently or troubleshoot issues with greater speed post-training, it's a clear indicator that the program has met its objectives.

Moreover, skill enhancement should be tangible. A successful program will often result in improved code quality-fewer bugs, cleaner architecture, and better adherence to industry standards. This can be quantitatively measured through code reviews or software audits conducted before and after training sessions. Additionally, feedback from senior developers who oversee these reviews can provide invaluable qualitative insights into how well participants have integrated new skills into their daily work.

However, technical prowess is just one facet of a successful coding team. The ability to work collaboratively cannot be understated. In-house training programs that include soft skills development-such as communication workshops or team-building exercises-can significantly

improve teamwork dynamics. Surveys measuring employee satisfaction and peer evaluations can serve as indicators of enhanced collaboration resulting from such initiatives.

Furthermore, training programs should instill a culture of continuous learning within coding teams. One way to gauge this is by tracking participation in voluntary learning activities post-training-such as hackathons, mentorship roles, or contributions to open-source projects. An uptick in these activities signals a genuine commitment to personal growth inspired by the initial program.

Finally, retention rates are an indirect yet powerful measure of a training program's impact. Coding professionals who feel valued and see opportunities for growth within their organization are far less likely to seek opportunities elsewhere. Monitoring turnover rates following major training initiatives can reveal much about their long-term effectiveness.

In conclusion, while traditional metrics like test scores play a role in evaluating training success for coding teams, they do not paint the full picture alone. A holistic approach that considers alignment with organizational goals, skill application in real-world scenarios, enhanced teamwork dynamics, culture shifts towards continuous learning, and employee retention provides a more accurate assessment of both immediate benefits and lasting impacts of in-house training programs on coding teams. By focusing on these broader indicators, organizations can ensure they are not only nurturing skilled programmers but also building cohesive teams capable of driving sustained innovation.

# **Future Trends and Innovations in AI-Driven Medical Coding Solutions**

As the healthcare industry continues to evolve, medical coding stands at the forefront of this transformation. The future trends in medical coding are poised to reshape how coding teams operate, necessitating a shift in training strategies, especially for in-house programs. Understanding these trends and their implications is crucial for healthcare organizations aiming to maintain accuracy, efficiency, and compliance within their coding departments.

One of the most significant trends influencing medical coding is the growing integration of artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning technologies. These technologies are designed to streamline coding processes by automating routine tasks, reducing errors, and enhancing productivity. However, as AI becomes more prevalent, it will not replace human coders but rather augment their capabilities. This development implies that in-house training programs must adapt by incorporating modules on AI literacy. Training should focus on teaching coders how to interact with AI tools effectively and leverage them to improve their workflow.

Another emerging trend is the increasing complexity of healthcare services and the corresponding expansion of coding systems like ICD-11 and CPT updates. As medical procedures become more sophisticated, so too does the task of accurately capturing them through codes. Coding professionals need to be adept at navigating these comprehensive systems. In-house training programs must prioritize continuous education on new codes and guidelines to ensure coders remain proficient and informed about industry changes.

Telemedicine's rise is also reshaping medical coding practices. The pandemic accelerated telehealth adoption, leading to unique challenges in documentation and coding due to variations in service delivery methods across different platforms. In-house training programs should address this shift by providing specialized training sessions focused on telehealth-specific codes and regulatory requirements.

Additionally, data privacy regulations such as HIPAA continue to stress the importance of secure data handling practices among medical coders. With an ever-increasing volume of electronic health records being processed daily, training must emphasize compliance with these regulations. Coders should be well-versed in identifying potential security risks and understanding their role in safeguarding patient information.

Furthermore, as healthcare systems become more interconnected globally, there is a growing demand for coders who understand international standards and can work seamlessly within diverse environments. Cross-cultural competency thus becomes essential; hence training

programs should include intercultural communication skills alongside technical proficiencies.

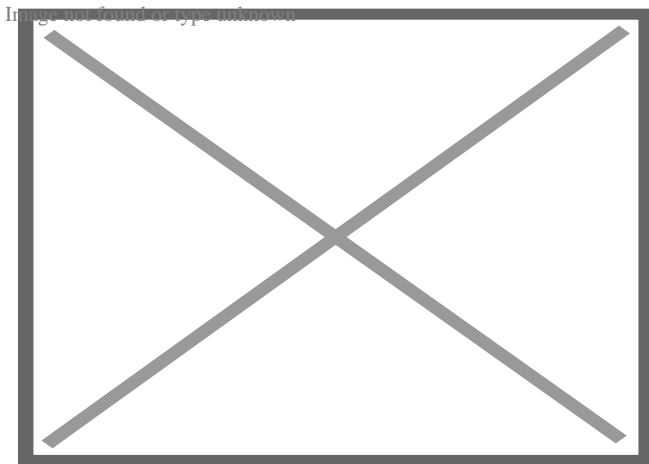
To effectively respond to these evolving demands within medical coding environments requires forward-thinking leadership from those responsible for designing in-house training initiatives. It involves moving beyond traditional classroom settings toward creating dynamic learning experiences that incorporate real-world scenarios using advanced simulation tools or virtual reality applications where applicable.

In conclusion, future trends in medical coding present both challenges and opportunities that necessitate a thoughtful approach toward coder education through innovative in-house training programs tailored specifically towards equipping teams with necessary skills while fostering adaptability amidst rapid technological advancements within this crucial sector of healthcare delivery systems worldwide. As organizations prepare themselves today for tomorrow's needs they ensure continued excellence ultimately benefiting patients everywhere who rely upon accurate timely care facilitated indirectly via skilled diligent practitioners behind every encoded record maintained throughout our collective global networked society dedicated towards healthier lives lived longer better together!

### About learning

For the album by Perfume Genius, see *Learning* (album).

Several terms redirect here. For other uses, see [Learn \(disambiguation\)](#), [Learned \(disambiguation\)](#), and [Learners \(film\)](#).



American students learning how to make and roll sushi

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# Cognitive psychology

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## Perception

- Visual
- Object recognition
- Face recognition
- Pattern recognition

## Attention

## Memory

- Aging
- Emotional
- Learning
- Long-term

## Metacognition

## Language

Metalanguage

## Thinking

- Cognition
- Concept
- Reasoning
- Decision making
- Problem solving

## Numerical cognition

- Numerosity adaptation effect
- Approximate number system
- Parallel individuation system

**Learning** is the process of acquiring new understanding, knowledge, behaviors, skills, values, attitudes, and preferences.<sup>[1]</sup> The ability to learn is possessed by humans, non-human animals, and some machines; there is also evidence for some kind of learning in certain plants.<sup>[2]</sup> Some learning is immediate, induced by a single event (e.g. being burned by a hot stove), but much skill and knowledge accumulate from repeated experiences.<sup>[3]</sup> The changes induced by learning often last a lifetime, and it is hard to distinguish learned material that seems to be "lost" from that which cannot be retrieved.<sup>[4]</sup>

Human learning starts at birth (it might even start before<sup>[5]</sup>) and continues until death as a consequence of ongoing interactions between people and their environment. The nature and processes involved in learning are studied in many established fields (including

educational psychology, neuropsychology, experimental psychology, cognitive sciences, and pedagogy), as well as emerging fields of knowledge (e.g. with a shared interest in the topic of learning from safety events such as incidents/accidents,[<sup>6</sup>] or in collaborative learning health systems[<sup>7</sup>]). Research in such fields has led to the identification of various sorts of learning. For example, learning may occur as a result of habituation, or classical conditioning, operant conditioning or as a result of more complex activities such as play, seen only in relatively intelligent animals.[<sup>8</sup>][<sup>9</sup>] Learning may occur consciously or without conscious awareness. Learning that an aversive event cannot be avoided or escaped may result in a condition called learned helplessness.[<sup>10</sup>] There is evidence for human behavioral learning prenatally, in which habituation has been observed as early as 32 weeks into gestation, indicating that the central nervous system is sufficiently developed and primed for learning and memory to occur very early on in development.[<sup>11</sup>]

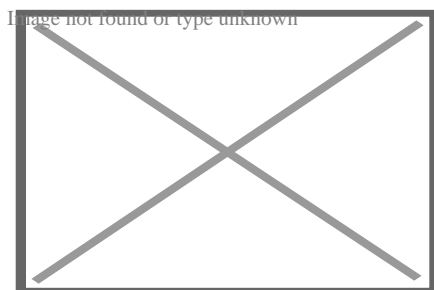
Play has been approached by several theorists as a form of learning. Children experiment with the world, learn the rules, and learn to interact through play. Lev Vygotsky agrees that play is pivotal for children's development, since they make meaning of their environment through playing educational games. For Vygotsky, however, play is the first form of learning language and communication, and the stage where a child begins to understand rules and symbols.[<sup>12</sup>] This has led to a view that learning in organisms is always related to semiosis,[<sup>13</sup>] and is often associated with representational systems/activity.[<sup>14</sup>]

## Types

[edit]

See also: Learning styles and Machine learning § Types of problems and tasks

There are various functional categorizations of memory which have developed. Some memory researchers distinguish memory based on the relationship between the stimuli involved (associative vs non-associative) or based to whether the content can be communicated through language (declarative/explicit vs procedural/implicit). Some of these categories can, in turn, be parsed into sub-types. For instance, declarative memory comprises both episodic and semantic memory.



Children learn to bike in the eighties in Czechoslovakia.

## Non-associative learning



[edit]

*Non-associative learning* refers to "a relatively permanent change in the strength of response to a single stimulus due to repeated exposure to that stimulus."<sup>[15]</sup> This definition exempts the changes caused by sensory adaptation, fatigue, or injury.<sup>[16]</sup>

Non-associative learning can be divided into habituation and sensitization.

## Habituation

[edit]

Main article: Habituation

*Habituation* is an example of non-associative learning in which one or more components of an innate response (e.g., response probability, response duration) to a stimulus diminishes when the stimulus is repeated. Thus, habituation must be distinguished from extinction, which is an associative process. In operant extinction, for example, a response declines because it is no longer followed by a reward. An example of habituation can be seen in small song birds—if a stuffed owl (or similar predator) is put into the cage, the birds initially react to it as though it were a real predator. Soon the birds react less, showing habituation. If another stuffed owl is introduced (or the same one removed and re-introduced), the birds react to it again as though it were a predator, demonstrating that it is only a very specific stimulus that is habituated to (namely, one particular unmoving owl in one place). The habituation process is faster for stimuli that occur at a high rather than for stimuli that occur at a low rate as well as for the weak and strong stimuli, respectively.<sup>[17]</sup> Habituation has been shown in essentially every species of animal, as well as the sensitive plant *Mimosa pudica*<sup>[18]</sup> and the large protozoan *Stentor coeruleus*.<sup>[19]</sup> This concept acts in direct opposition to sensitization.<sup>[17]</sup>

## Sensitization

[edit]

Main article: Sensitization

*Sensitization* is an example of non-associative learning in which the progressive amplification of a response follows repeated administrations of a stimulus.<sup>[20]</sup> This is based on the notion that a defensive reflex to a stimulus such as withdrawal or escape becomes stronger after the exposure to a different harmful or threatening stimulus.<sup>[21]</sup> An everyday example of this mechanism is the repeated tonic stimulation of peripheral nerves that occurs if a person rubs their arm continuously. After a while, this stimulation creates a warm sensation that can eventually turn painful. This pain results from a progressively amplified synaptic response of the peripheral nerves. This sends a warning that the stimulation is harmful.<sup>[22]</sup> <sup>[clarification needed]</sup> Sensitization is thought to underlie both

adaptive as well as maladaptive learning processes in the organism.[<sup>23</sup>]*[citation needed]*

## Active learning

[edit]

Main article: Active learning

*Active learning* occurs when a person takes control of his/her learning experience. Since understanding information is the key aspect of learning, it is important for learners to recognize what they understand and what they do not. By doing so, they can monitor their own mastery of subjects. Active learning encourages learners to have an internal dialogue in which they verbalize understandings. This and other meta-cognitive strategies can be taught to a child over time. Studies within metacognition have proven the value in active learning, claiming that the learning is usually at a stronger level as a result.<sup>[24]</sup> In addition, learners have more incentive to learn when they have control over not only how they learn but also what they learn.<sup>[25]</sup> Active learning is a key characteristic of student-centered learning. Conversely, passive learning and direct instruction are characteristics of teacher-centered learning (or traditional education).

## Associative learning

[edit]

*Associative learning* is the process by which a person or animal learns an association between two stimuli or events.<sup>[26]</sup> In classical conditioning, a previously neutral stimulus is repeatedly paired with a reflex-eliciting stimulus until eventually the neutral stimulus elicits a response on its own. In operant conditioning, a behavior that is reinforced or punished in the presence of a stimulus becomes more or less likely to occur in the presence of that stimulus.

## Operant conditioning

[edit]

Main article: Operant conditioning

*Operant conditioning* is a way in which behavior can be shaped or modified according to the desires of the trainer or head individual. Operant conditioning uses the thought that living things seek pleasure and avoid pain, and that an animal or human can learn through receiving either reward or punishment at a specific time called trace conditioning. Trace conditioning is the small and ideal period of time between the subject performing the desired behavior, and receiving the positive reinforcement as a result of their performance. The reward needs to be given immediately after the completion of the wanted behavior.<sup>[27]</sup>

Operant conditioning is different from classical conditioning in that it shapes behavior not solely on bodily reflexes that occur naturally to a specific stimulus, but rather focuses on the shaping of wanted behavior that requires conscious thought, and ultimately requires learning.<sup>[28]</sup>

Punishment and reinforcement are the two principal ways in which operant conditioning occurs. Punishment is used to reduce unwanted behavior, and ultimately (from the learner's perspective) leads to avoidance of the punishment, not necessarily avoidance of the unwanted behavior. Punishment is not an appropriate way to increase wanted behavior for animals or humans. Punishment can be divided into two subcategories, positive punishment and negative punishment. Positive punishment is when an aversive aspect of life or thing is added to the subject, for this reason it is called positive punishment. For example, the parent spanking their child would be considered a positive punishment, because a spanking was added to the child. Negative punishment is considered the removal of something loved or desirable from the subject. For example, when a parent puts his child in time out, in reality, the child is losing the opportunity to be with friends, or to enjoy the freedom to do as he pleases. In this example, negative punishment is the removal of the child's desired rights to play with his friends etc.<sup>[29][30]</sup>

Reinforcement on the other hand is used to increase a wanted behavior either through negative reinforcement or positive reinforcement. Negative reinforcement is defined by removing an undesirable aspect of life, or thing. For example, a dog might learn to sit as the trainer scratches his ears, which ultimately is removing his itches (undesirable aspect). Positive reinforcement is defined by adding a desirable aspect of life or thing. For example, a dog might learn to sit if he receives a treat. In this example the treat was added to the dog's life.<sup>[29][30]</sup>

## **Classical conditioning**

[edit]

Main article: Classical conditioning

The typical paradigm for *classical conditioning* involves repeatedly pairing an unconditioned stimulus (which unfailingly evokes a reflexive response) with another previously neutral stimulus (which does not normally evoke the response). Following conditioning, the response occurs both to the unconditioned stimulus and to the other, unrelated stimulus (now referred to as the "conditioned stimulus"). The response to the conditioned stimulus is termed a *conditioned response*. The classic example is Ivan Pavlov and his dogs.<sup>[21]</sup> Pavlov fed his dogs meat powder, which naturally made the dogs salivate—salivating is a reflexive response to the meat powder. Meat powder is the unconditioned stimulus (US) and the salivation is the unconditioned response (UR). Pavlov rang a bell before presenting the meat powder. The first time Pavlov rang the bell, the neutral stimulus, the dogs did not salivate, but once he put the meat powder in their mouths they began to salivate. After numerous pairings of bell and food, the dogs learned

that the bell signaled that food was about to come, and began to salivate when they heard the bell. Once this occurred, the bell became the conditioned stimulus (CS) and the salivation to the bell became the conditioned response (CR). Classical conditioning has been demonstrated in many species. For example, it is seen in honeybees, in the proboscis extension reflex paradigm.<sup>[31]</sup> It was recently also demonstrated in garden pea plants.<sup>[32]</sup>

Another influential person in the world of classical conditioning is John B. Watson. Watson's work was very influential and paved the way for B.F. Skinner's radical behaviorism. Watson's behaviorism (and philosophy of science) stood in direct contrast to Freud and other accounts based largely on introspection. Watson's view was that the introspective method was too subjective and that we should limit the study of human development to directly observable behaviors. In 1913, Watson published the article "Psychology as the Behaviorist Views", in which he argued that laboratory studies should serve psychology best as a science. Watson's most famous, and controversial, experiment was "Little Albert", where he demonstrated how psychologists can account for the learning of emotion through classical conditioning principles.

## **Observational learning**

[edit]

Main article: Observational learning

*Observational learning* is learning that occurs through observing the behavior of others. It is a form of social learning which takes various forms, based on various processes. In humans, this form of learning seems to not need reinforcement to occur, but instead, requires a social model such as a parent, sibling, friend, or teacher with surroundings.

## **Imprinting**

[edit]

Main article: Imprinting (psychology)

*Imprinting* is a kind of learning occurring at a particular life stage that is rapid and apparently independent of the consequences of behavior. In filial imprinting, young animals, particularly birds, form an association with another individual or in some cases, an object, that they respond to as they would to a parent. In 1935, the Austrian Zoologist Konrad Lorenz discovered that certain birds follow and form a bond if the object makes sounds.

## **Play**

[edit]

Main article: Play (activity)

*Play* generally describes behavior with no particular end in itself, but that improves performance in similar future situations. This is seen in a wide variety of vertebrates besides humans, but is mostly limited to mammals and birds. Cats are known to play with a ball of string when young, which gives them experience with catching prey. Besides inanimate objects, animals may play with other members of their own species or other animals, such as orcas playing with seals they have caught. Play involves a significant cost to animals, such as increased vulnerability to predators and the risk of injury and possibly infection. It also consumes energy, so there must be significant benefits associated with play for it to have evolved. Play is generally seen in younger animals, suggesting a link with learning. However, it may also have other benefits not associated directly with learning, for example improving physical fitness.

Play, as it pertains to humans as a form of learning is central to a child's learning and development. Through play, children learn social skills such as sharing and collaboration. Children develop emotional skills such as learning to deal with the emotion of anger, through play activities. As a form of learning, play also facilitates the development of thinking and language skills in children.<sup>[33]</sup>

There are five types of play:

1. Sensorimotor play aka functional play, characterized by the repetition of an activity
2. Roleplay occurs starting at the age of three
3. Rule-based play where authoritative prescribed codes of conduct are primary
4. Construction play involves experimentation and building
5. Movement play aka physical play<sup>[33]</sup>

These five types of play are often intersecting. All types of play generate thinking and problem-solving skills in children. Children learn to think creatively when they learn through play.<sup>[34]</sup> Specific activities involved in each type of play change over time as humans progress through the lifespan. Play as a form of learning, can occur solitarily, or involve interacting with others.

## **Enculturation**

[edit]

Main article: Enculturation

*Enculturation* is the process by which people learn values and behaviors that are appropriate or necessary in their surrounding culture.<sup>[35]</sup> Parents, other adults, and peers shape the individual's understanding of these values.<sup>[35]</sup> If successful, enculturation results in competence in the language, values, and rituals of the culture.<sup>[35]</sup> This is different from acculturation, where a person adopts the values and societal rules of a culture different from their native one.

Multiple examples of enculturation can be found cross-culturally. Collaborative practices in the Mazahua people have shown that participation in everyday interaction and later learning activities contributed to enculturation rooted in nonverbal social experience.<sup>[36]</sup> As the children participated in everyday activities, they learned the cultural significance of these interactions. The collaborative and helpful behaviors exhibited by Mexican and Mexican-heritage children is a cultural practice known as being "acomedido"<sup>[37]</sup> Chillihuani girls in Peru described themselves as weaving constantly, following behavior shown by the other adults.<sup>[38]</sup>

## Episodic learning

[edit]

*Episodic learning* is a change in behavior that occurs as a result of an event.<sup>[39]</sup> For example, a fear of dogs that follows being bitten by a dog is episodic learning. Episodic learning is so named because events are recorded into episodic memory, which is one of the three forms of explicit learning and retrieval, along with perceptual memory and semantic memory.<sup>[40]</sup> Episodic memory remembers events and history that are embedded in experience and this is distinguished from semantic memory, which attempts to extract facts out of their experiential context<sup>[41]</sup> or – as some describe – a timeless organization of knowledge.<sup>[42]</sup> For instance, if a person remembers the Grand Canyon from a recent visit, it is an episodic memory. He would use semantic memory to answer someone who would ask him information such as where the Grand Canyon is. A study revealed that humans are very accurate in the recognition of episodic memory even without deliberate intention to memorize it.<sup>[43]</sup> This is said to indicate a very large storage capacity of the brain for things that people pay attention to.<sup>[43]</sup>

## Multimedia learning

[edit]

Main article: Multimedia learning

*Multimedia learning* is where a person uses both auditory and visual stimuli to learn information.<sup>[44]</sup> This type of learning relies on dual-coding theory.<sup>[45]</sup>

## E-learning and augmented learning

[edit]

Main article: Electronic learning

*Electronic learning* or e-learning is computer-enhanced learning. A specific and always more diffused e-learning is mobile learning (m-learning), which uses different mobile telecommunication equipment, such as cellular phones.

When a learner interacts with the e-learning environment, it is called augmented learning. By adapting to the needs of individuals, the context-driven instruction can be dynamically tailored to the learner's natural environment. Augmented digital content may include text, images, video, audio (music and voice). By personalizing instruction, augmented learning has been shown to improve learning performance for a lifetime.<sup>[46]</sup> See also minimally invasive education.

Moore (1989)<sup>[47]</sup> purported that three core types of interaction are necessary for quality, effective online learning:

- Learner–learner (i.e. communication between and among peers with or without the teacher present),
- Learner–instructor (i.e. student-teacher communication), and
- Learner–content (i.e. intellectually interacting with content that results in changes in learners' understanding, perceptions, and cognitive structures).

In his theory of transactional distance, Moore (1993)<sup>[48]</sup> contented that structure and interaction or dialogue bridge the gap in understanding and communication that is created by geographical distances (known as transactional distance).

## **Rote learning**

[edit]

Main article: Rote learning

*Rote learning* is memorizing information so that it can be recalled by the learner exactly the way it was read or heard. The major technique used for rote learning is *learning by repetition*, based on the idea that a learner can recall the material exactly (but not its meaning) if the information is repeatedly processed. Rote learning is used in diverse areas, from mathematics to music to religion.

## **Meaningful learning**

[edit]

See also: Deeper learning

*Meaningful learning* is the concept that learned knowledge (e.g., a fact) is fully understood to the extent that it relates to other knowledge. To this end, meaningful learning contrasts with rote learning in which information is acquired without regard to understanding. Meaningful learning, on the other hand, implies there is a comprehensive knowledge of the context of the facts learned.<sup>[49]</sup>

## **Evidence-based learning**

[edit]

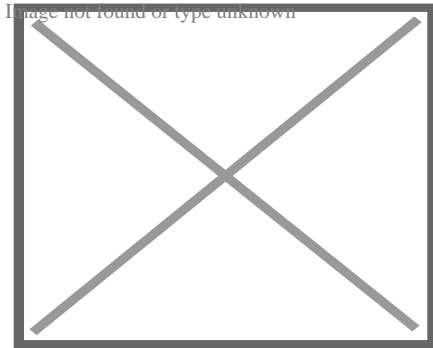
Main article: Evidence-based learning

Evidence-based learning is the use of evidence from well designed scientific studies to accelerate learning. Evidence-based learning methods such as spaced repetition can increase the rate at which a student learns.<sup>[50]</sup>

## Formal learning

[edit]

Main article: Education



A depiction of the world's oldest continually operating university, the University of Bologna, Italy

*Formal learning* is a deliberate way attaining of knowledge, which takes place within a teacher-student environment, such as in a school system or work environment.<sup>[51]</sup><sup>[52]</sup> The term formal learning has nothing to do with the formality of the learning, but rather the way it is directed and organized. In formal learning, the learning or training departments set out the goals and objectives of the learning and oftentimes learners will be awarded with a diploma, or a type of formal recognition.<sup>[51]</sup><sup>[53]</sup>

## Non-formal learning

[edit]

Main article: Nonformal learning

*Non-formal learning* is organized learning outside the formal learning system. For example, learning by coming together with people with similar interests and exchanging viewpoints, in clubs or in (international) youth organizations, and workshops. From the organizer's point of reference, non-formal learning does not always need a main objective or learning outcome. From the learner's point of view, non-formal learning, although not focused on outcomes, often results in an intentional learning opportunity.<sup>[54]</sup>

## Informal learning

[edit]



Main article: Informal learning

*Informal learning* is less structured than "non-formal learning". It may occur through the experience of day-to-day situations (for example, one would learn to look ahead while walking because of the possible dangers inherent in not paying attention to where one is going). It is learning from life, during a meal at the table with parents, during play, and while exploring etc.. For the learner, informal learning is most often an experience of happenstance, and not a deliberately planned experience. Thus this does not require enrollment into any class. Unlike formal learning, informal learning typically does not lead to accreditation.<sup>[54]</sup> Informal learning begins to unfold as the learner ponders his or her situation. This type of learning does not require a professor of any kind, and learning outcomes are unforeseen following the learning experience.<sup>[55]</sup>

Informal learning is self-directed and because it focuses on day-to-day situations, the value of informal learning can be considered high. As a result, information retrieved from informal learning experiences will likely be applicable to daily life.<sup>[56]</sup> Children with informal learning can at times yield stronger support than subjects with formal learning in the topic of mathematics.<sup>[57]</sup> Daily life experiences take place in the workforce, family life, and any other situation that may arise during one's lifetime. Informal learning is voluntary from the learner's viewpoint, and may require making mistakes and learning from them. Informal learning allows the individual to discover coping strategies for difficult emotions that may arise while learning. From the learner's perspective, informal learning can become purposeful, because the learner chooses which rate is appropriate to learn and because this type of learning tends to take place within smaller groups or by oneself.<sup>[56]</sup>

## **Nonformal learning and combined approaches**

[edit]

The educational system may use a combination of formal, informal, and nonformal learning methods. The UN and EU recognize these different forms of learning (cf. links below). In some schools, students can get points that count in the formal-learning systems if they get work done in informal-learning circuits. They may be given time to assist international youth workshops and training courses, on the condition they prepare, contribute, share, and can prove this offered valuable new insight, helped to acquire new skills, a place to get experience in organizing, teaching, etc.

To learn a skill, such as solving a Rubik's Cube quickly, several factors come into play at once:

- Reading directions helps a player learn the patterns that solve the Rubik's Cube.
- Practicing the moves repeatedly helps build "muscle memory" and speed.
- Thinking critically about moves helps find shortcuts, which speeds future attempts.
- Observing the Rubik's Cube's six colors help anchor solutions in the mind.
- Revisiting the cube occasionally helps retain the skill.

## Tangential learning

[edit]

*Tangential learning* is the process by which people self-educate if a topic is exposed to them in a context that they already enjoy. For example, after playing a music-based video game, some people may be motivated to learn how to play a real instrument, or after watching a TV show that references Faust and Lovecraft, some people may be inspired to read the original work.<sup>[58]</sup> Self-education can be improved with systematization. According to experts in natural learning, self-oriented learning training has proven an effective tool for assisting independent learners with the natural phases of learning.<sup>[59]</sup>

*Extra Credits* writer and game designer James Portnow was the first to suggest games as a potential venue for "tangential learning".<sup>[60]</sup> Mozelius *et al.*<sup>[61]</sup> points out that intrinsic integration of learning content seems to be a crucial design factor, and that games that include modules for further self-studies tend to present good results. The built-in encyclopedias in the *Civilization* games are presented as an example – by using these modules gamers can dig deeper for knowledge about historical events in the gameplay. The importance of rules that regulate learning modules and game experience is discussed by Moreno, C.,<sup>[62]</sup> in a case study about the mobile game *Kiwaka*. In this game, developed by Landka in collaboration with ESA and ESO, progress is rewarded with educational content, as opposed to traditional education games where learning activities are rewarded with gameplay.<sup>[63]</sup><sup>[64]</sup>

## Dialogic learning

[edit]

Main article: Dialogic learning

*Dialogic learning* is a type of learning based on dialogue.

## Incidental learning

[edit]

In *incidental teaching* learning is not planned by the instructor or the student, it occurs as a byproduct of another activity — an experience, observation, self-reflection, interaction, unique event (e.g. in response to incidents/accidents), or common routine task. This learning happens in addition to or apart from the instructor's plans and the student's expectations. An example of incidental teaching is when the instructor places a train set on top of a cabinet. If the child points or walks towards the cabinet, the instructor prompts the student to say "train". Once the student says "train", he gets access to the train set.

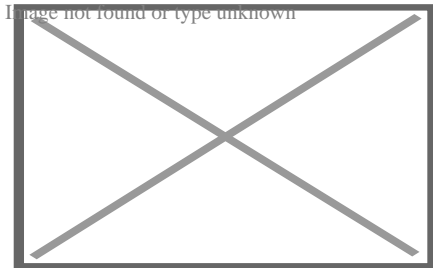
Here are some steps most commonly used in incidental teaching:<sup>[65]</sup>

- An instructor will arrange the learning environment so that necessary materials are within the student's sight, but not within his reach, thus impacting his motivation to seek out those materials.
- An instructor waits for the student to initiate engagement.
- An instructor prompts the student to respond if needed.
- An instructor allows access to an item/activity contingent on a correct response from the student.
- The instructor fades out the prompting process over a period of time and subsequent trials.

Incidental learning is an occurrence that is not generally accounted for using the traditional methods of instructional objectives and outcomes assessment. This type of learning occurs in part as a product of social interaction and active involvement in both online and onsite courses. Research implies that some un-assessed aspects of onsite and online learning challenge the equivalency of education between the two modalities. Both onsite and online learning have distinct advantages with traditional on-campus students experiencing higher degrees of incidental learning in three times as many areas as online students. Additional research is called for to investigate the implications of these findings both conceptually and pedagogically.<sup>[66]</sup>

## Domains

[edit]



*Future school (1901 or 1910)*

Benjamin Bloom has suggested three domains of learning in his taxonomy which are:

- Cognitive: To recall, calculate, discuss, analyze, problem solve, etc.
- Psychomotor: To dance, swim, ski, dive, drive a car, ride a bike, etc.
- Affective: To like something or someone, love, appreciate, fear, hate, worship, etc.

These domains are not mutually exclusive. For example, in learning to play chess, the person must learn the rules (cognitive domain)—but must also learn how to set up the chess pieces and how to properly hold and move a chess piece (psychomotor). Furthermore, later in the game the person may even learn to love the game itself, value its applications in life, and appreciate its history (affective domain).<sup>[67]</sup>

## Transfer

[edit]

Transfer of learning is the application of skill, knowledge or understanding to resolve a novel problem or situation that happens when certain conditions are fulfilled. Research indicates that learning transfer is infrequent; most common when "... cued, primed, and guided..."<sup>[68]</sup> and has sought to clarify what it is, and how it might be promoted through instruction.

Over the history of its discourse, various hypotheses and definitions have been advanced. First, it is speculated that different types of transfer exist, including: near transfer, the application of skill to solve a novel problem in a similar context; and far transfer, the application of skill to solve a novel problem presented in a different context.<sup>[69]</sup> Furthermore, Perkins and Salomon (1992) suggest that positive transfer in cases when learning supports novel problem solving, and negative transfer occurs when prior learning inhibits performance on highly correlated tasks, such as second or third-language learning.<sup>[70]</sup> Concepts of positive and negative transfer have a long history; researchers in the early 20th century described the possibility that "...habits or mental acts developed by a particular kind of training may inhibit rather than facilitate other mental activities"<sup>[71]</sup> Finally, Schwarz, Bransford and Sears (2005) have proposed that transferring knowledge into a situation may differ from transferring knowledge out to a situation as a means to reconcile findings that transfer may both be frequent and challenging to promote.<sup>[72]</sup>

A significant and long research history has also attempted to explicate the conditions under which transfer of learning might occur. Early research by Ruger, for example, found that the "level of attention", "attitudes", "method of attack" (or method for tackling a problem), a "search for new points of view", a "careful testing of hypothesis" and "generalization" were all valuable approaches for promoting transfer.<sup>[73]</sup> To encourage transfer through teaching, Perkins and Salomon recommend aligning ("hugging") instruction with practice and assessment, and "bridging", or encouraging learners to reflect on past experiences or make connections between prior knowledge and current content.<sup>[70]</sup>

## Factors affecting learning

[edit]

Main article: Evidence-based learning

## Genetics

[edit]

Main article: Heritability of IQ

Some aspects of intelligence are inherited genetically, so different learners to some degree have different abilities with regard to learning and speed of learning.<sup>[citation needed]</sup>

## Socioeconomic and physical conditions

[edit]

Problems like malnutrition, fatigue, and poor physical health can slow learning, as can bad ventilation or poor lighting at home, and unhygienic living conditions.<sup>[74][75]</sup>

The design, quality, and setting of a learning space, such as a school or classroom, can each be critical to the success of a learning environment. Size, configuration, comfort—fresh air, temperature, light, acoustics, furniture—can all affect a student's learning. The tools used by both instructors and students directly affect how information is conveyed, from the display and writing surfaces (blackboards, markerboards, tack surfaces) to digital technologies. For example, if a room is too crowded, stress levels rise, student attention is reduced, and furniture arrangement is restricted. If furniture is incorrectly arranged, sightlines to the instructor or instructional material are limited and the ability to suit the learning or lesson style is restricted. Aesthetics can also play a role, for if student morale suffers, so does motivation to attend school.<sup>[76][77]</sup>

## Psychological factors and teaching style

[edit]

Intrinsic motivation, such as a student's own intellectual curiosity or desire to experiment or explore, has been found to sustain learning more effectively than extrinsic motivations such as grades or parental requirements. Rote learning involves repetition in order to reinforce facts in memory, but has been criticized as ineffective and "drill and kill" since it kills intrinsic motivation. Alternatives to rote learning include active learning and meaningful learning.

The speed, accuracy, and retention, depend upon aptitude, attitude, interest, attention, energy level, and motivation of the students. Students who answer a question properly or give good results should be praised. This encouragement increases their ability and helps them produce better results. Certain attitudes, such as always finding fault in a student's answer or provoking or embarrassing the student in front of a class are counterproductive.<sup>[78][79]</sup>*[need quotation to verify]*

Certain techniques can increase long-term retention:<sup>[80]</sup>

- The spacing effect means that lessons or studying spaced out over time (spaced repetition) are better than cramming
- Teaching material to other people
- "Self-explaining" (paraphrasing material to oneself) rather than passive reading
- Low-stakes quizzing

## Epigenetic factors

[edit]

Further information: Epigenetics in learning and memory

The underlying molecular basis of learning appears to be dynamic changes in gene expression occurring in brain neurons that are introduced by epigenetic mechanisms. Epigenetic regulation of gene expression involves, most notably, chemical modification of DNA or DNA-associated histone proteins. These chemical modifications can cause long-lasting changes in gene expression. Epigenetic mechanisms involved in learning include the methylation and demethylation of neuronal DNA as well as methylation, acetylation and deacetylation of neuronal histone proteins.

During learning, information processing in the brain involves induction of oxidative modification in neuronal DNA followed by the employment of DNA repair processes that introduce epigenetic alterations. In particular, the DNA repair processes of non-homologous end joining and base excision repair are employed in learning and memory formation.<sup>[81][82]</sup>

## General cognition-related factors

[edit]

This section is an excerpt from Development of the nervous system in humans § Adult neural development.<sup>[edit]</sup>

The nervous system continues to develop during adulthood until brain death. For example:

- physical exercise has neurobiological effects
- the consumption of foods (or nutrients), obesity,<sup>[83]</sup> alterations of the microbiome, drinks, dietary supplements, recreational drugs and medications<sup>[84][85]</sup> may possibly also have effects on the development of the nervous system
- various diseases, such as COVID-19, have effects on the development of the nervous system
  - For example, several genes have been identified as being associated with changes in brain structure over lifetime and are potential Alzheimer's disease therapy-targets.<sup>[86][87]</sup>
- psychological events such as mental trauma and resilience-building
- exposure to environmental pollution and toxins such as air pollution may have effects on the further development of the nervous system
- other activities may also have effects on the development of the nervous system, such as lifelong learning, retraining, and types of media- and economic activities
- broadly, brain aging

## Adult learning vs children's learning

[edit]

See also: Aging brain

**[edit]** This section **needs expansion**. You can help by adding to it. *(January 2023)*

Learning is often more efficient in children and takes longer or is more difficult with age. A study using neuroimaging identified rapid neurotransmitter GABA boosting as a major potential explanation-component for why that is.<sup>[88][89]</sup>

Children's brains contain more "silent synapses" that are inactive until recruited as part of neuroplasticity and flexible learning or memories.<sup>[90][91]</sup> Neuroplasticity is heightened during critical or sensitive periods of brain development, mainly referring to brain development during child development.<sup>[92]</sup>

However researchers, after subjecting late middle aged participants to university courses, suggest perceived age differences in learning may be a result of differences in time, support, environment, and attitudes, rather than inherent ability.<sup>[93]</sup>

What humans learn at the early stages, and what they learn to apply, sets humans on course for life or has a disproportional impact.<sup>[94]</sup> Adults usually have a higher capacity to select what they learn, to what extent and how. For example, children may learn the given subjects and topics of school curricula via classroom blackboard-transcription handwriting, instead of being able to choose specific topics/skills or jobs to learn and the styles of learning. For instance, children may not have developed consolidated interests, ethics, interest in purpose and meaningful activities, knowledge about real-world requirements and demands, and priorities.

## **In animal evolution**

**[edit]**

Animals gain knowledge in two ways. First is learning—in which an animal gathers information about its environment and uses this information. For example, if an animal eats something that hurts its stomach, it learns not to eat that again. The second is innate knowledge that is genetically inherited. An example of this is when a horse is born and can immediately walk. The horse has not learned this behavior; it simply knows how to do it.<sup>[95]</sup> ] In some scenarios, innate knowledge is more beneficial than learned knowledge. However, in other scenarios the opposite is true—animals must learn certain behaviors when it is disadvantageous to have a specific innate behavior. In these situations, learning evolves in the species.

## **Costs and benefits of learned and innate knowledge**

**[edit]**

In a changing environment, an animal must constantly gain new information to survive. However, in a stable environment, this same individual needs to gather the information it needs once, and then rely on it for the rest of its life. Therefore, different scenarios better

suit either learning or innate knowledge. Essentially, the cost of obtaining certain knowledge versus the benefit of already having it determines whether an animal evolved to learn in a given situation, or whether it innately knew the information. If the cost of gaining the knowledge outweighs the benefit of having it, then the animal does not evolve to learn in this scenario—but instead, non-learning evolves. However, if the benefit of having certain information outweighs the cost of obtaining it, then the animal is far more likely to evolve to have to learn this information.[<sup>95</sup>]

Non-learning is more likely to evolve in two scenarios. If an environment is static and change does not or rarely occurs, then learning is simply unnecessary. Because there is no need for learning in this scenario—and because learning could prove disadvantageous due to the time it took to learn the information—non-learning evolves. Similarly, if an environment is in a constant state of change, learning is also disadvantageous, as anything learned is immediately irrelevant because of the changing environment.[<sup>95</sup>] The learned information no longer applies. Essentially, the animal would be just as successful if it took a guess as if it learned. In this situation, non-learning evolves. In fact, a study of *Drosophila melanogaster* showed that learning can actually lead to a decrease in productivity, possibly because egg-laying behaviors and decisions were impaired by interference from the memories gained from the newly learned materials or because of the cost of energy in learning.[<sup>96</sup>]

However, in environments where change occurs within an animal's lifetime but is not constant, learning is more likely to evolve. Learning is beneficial in these scenarios because an animal can adapt to the new situation, but can still apply the knowledge that it learns for a somewhat extended period of time. Therefore, learning increases the chances of success as opposed to guessing.[<sup>95</sup>] An example of this is seen in aquatic environments with landscapes subject to change. In these environments, learning is favored because the fish are predisposed to learn the specific spatial cues where they live.[<sup>97</sup>]

## In plants

[edit]

In recent years, plant physiologists have examined the physiology of plant behavior and cognition. The concepts of learning and memory are relevant in identifying how plants respond to external cues, a behavior necessary for survival. Monica Gagliano, an Australian professor of evolutionary ecology, makes an argument for associative learning in the garden pea, *Pisum sativum*. The garden pea is not specific to a region, but rather grows in cooler, higher altitude climates. Gagliano and colleagues' 2016 paper aims to differentiate between innate phototropism behavior and learned behaviors.[<sup>32</sup>] Plants use light cues in various ways, such as to sustain their metabolic needs and to maintain their internal circadian rhythms. Circadian rhythms in plants are modulated by endogenous bioactive substances that encourage leaf-opening and leaf-closing and are the basis of nyctinastic behaviors.[<sup>98</sup>]



Gagliano and colleagues constructed a classical conditioning test in which pea seedlings were divided into two experimental categories and placed in Y-shaped tubes.<sup>[32]</sup> In a series of training sessions, the plants were exposed to light coming down different arms of the tube. In each case, there was a fan blowing lightly down the tube in either the same or opposite arm as the light. The unconditioned stimulus (US) was the predicted occurrence of light and the conditioned stimulus (CS) was the wind blowing by the fan. Previous experimentation shows that plants respond to light by bending and growing towards it through differential cell growth and division on one side of the plant stem mediated by auxin signaling pathways.<sup>[99]</sup>

During the testing phase of Gagliano's experiment, the pea seedlings were placed in different Y-pipes and exposed to the fan alone. Their direction of growth was subsequently recorded. The 'correct' response by the seedlings was deemed to be growing into the arm where the light was "predicted" from the previous day. The majority of plants in both experimental conditions grew in a direction consistent with the predicted location of light based on the position of the fan the previous day.<sup>[32]</sup> For example, if the seedling was trained with the fan and light coming down the same arm of the Y-pipe, the following day the seedling grew towards the fan in the absence of light cues despite the fan being placed in the opposite side of the Y-arm. Plants in the control group showed no preference to a particular arm of the Y-pipe. The percentage difference in population behavior observed between the control and experimental groups is meant to distinguish innate phototropism behavior from active associative learning.<sup>[32]</sup>

While the physiological mechanism of associative learning in plants is not known, Telewski et al. describes a hypothesis that describes photoreception as the basis of mechano-perception in plants.<sup>[100]</sup> One mechanism for mechano-perception in plants relies on MS ion channels and calcium channels. Mechanosensory proteins in cell lipid bilayers, known as MS ion channels, are activated once they are physically deformed in response to pressure or tension. Ca<sup>2+</sup> permeable ion channels are "stretch-gated" and allow for the influx of osmolytes and calcium, a well-known second messenger, into the cell. This ion influx triggers a passive flow of water into the cell down its osmotic gradient, effectively increasing turgor pressure and causing the cell to depolarize.<sup>[100]</sup> Gagliano hypothesizes that the basis of associative learning in *Pisum sativum* is the coupling of mechanosensory and photosensory pathways and is mediated by auxin signaling pathways. The result is directional growth to maximize a plant's capture of sunlight.<sup>[32]</sup>

Gagliano et al. published another paper on habituation behaviors in the *mimosa pudica* plant whereby the innate behavior of the plant was diminished by repeated exposure to a stimulus.<sup>[18]</sup> There has been controversy around this paper and more generally around the topic of plant cognition. Charles Abrahamson, a psychologist and behavioral biologist, says that part of the issue of why scientists disagree about whether plants have the ability to learn is that researchers do not use a consistent definition of "learning" and "cognition".<sup>[101]</sup> Similarly, Michael Pollan, an author, and journalist, says in his piece *The Intelligent Plant* that researchers do not doubt Gagliano's data but rather her language, specifically her use of the term "learning" and "cognition" with respect to plants.<sup>[102]</sup> A direction for

future research is testing whether circadian rhythms in plants modulate learning and behavior and surveying researchers' definitions of "cognition" and "learning".

## Machine learning

[edit]

[con] **This section needs expansion.** You can help by adding to it. (*February 2020*)

Robots can learn to cooperate.

Main article: Machine learning

Machine learning, a branch of artificial intelligence, concerns the construction and study of systems that can learn from data. For example, a machine learning system could be trained on email messages to learn to distinguish between spam and non-spam messages. Most of the Machine Learning models are based on probabilistic theories where each input (e.g. an image ) is associated with a probability to become the desired output.

## Types

[edit]

## Phases

[edit]

## See also

[edit]

- 21st century skills – Skills identified as being required for success in the 21st century
- Anticipatory socialization – Process in which people take on the values of groups that they aspire to join
- Epistemology – Philosophical study of knowledge
- Implicit learning – in learning psychology
- Instructional theory – Theory that offers explicit guidance on how to better help people learn and develop
- Learning sciences – Critical theory of learning
- Lifelong learning – Ongoing, voluntary, and self-motivated pursuit of knowledge
- Living educational theory
- Media psychology – Area of psychology
- Subgoal labeling – Cognitive process

## Information theory

[edit]

- Algorithmic information theory – Subfield of information theory and computer science

- Algorithmic probability – mathematical method of assigning a prior probability to a given observation
- Bayesian inference – Method of statistical inference
- Inductive logic programming – learning logic programs from data
- Inductive probability – Determining the probability of future events based on past events
- Information theory – Scientific study of digital information
- Minimum description length – Model selection principle
- Minimum message length – Formal information theory restatement of Occam's Razor
- Occam's razor – Philosophical problem-solving principle
- Solomonoff's theory of inductive inference – A mathematical theory
- AIXI – Mathematical formalism for artificial general intelligence

## Types of education

[edit]

- Autodidacticism – Independent education without the guidance of teachers
- Andragogy – Methods and principles in adult education
- Pedagogy – Theory and practice of education

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[edit]

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## Further reading

[edit]

Library resources about

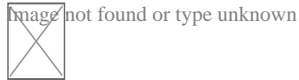
## Learning

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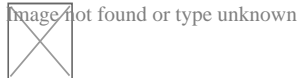
- Resources in your library
- *Ulrich Boser (2019). Learn Better: Mastering the Skills for Success in Life, Business, and School, or How to Become an Expert in Just About Anything. Rodale Books. ISBN 978-0593135310.*

## External links

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Wikimedia Commons has media related to **Learning**.



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- *How People Learn: Brain, Mind, Experience, and School* (expanded edition) published by the National Academies Press
- *Applying Science of Learning in Education: Infusing Psychological Science into the Curriculum* published by the American Psychological Association


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Ethology

## Branches

- Animal cognition
- Animal communication
- Animal consciousness
- Animal culture
- Animal sexual behaviour
- Animal welfare science
- Anthrozoology
- Bee learning and communication
- Behavioural ecology
- Behavioral endocrinology
- Behavioural genetics
- Breed
  - Grooming
- Comparative psychology
- Emotion in animals
- Ethogram
- Evolutionary neuroscience
- Feeding
- Hover
- Human ethology
- Instinct
- Learning
- Neuroethology
- Pain in animals
- Philosophical ethology
- Sociobiology
- Stereotypy
- Structures
  - Hive
  - Honeycomb
  - Nest
  - Instinct
- Swarm
- Tool use by non-humans
- Zoosemiotics
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  - Jakob von Uexküll
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  - E. O. Wilson
  - Solly Zuckerman
- Ethologists**
- Association for the Study of Animal Behaviour
  - International Society for Applied Ethology
  - *Animal Behaviour*
  - *Animal Cognition*
- Societies**
- *Animal Welfare*
  - *Behavioral Ecology*
  - *Behaviour*
- Journals**
-  Category
- v
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  - e
- Human intelligence topics
- Collective
  - Emotional
  - Intellectual
  - Linguistic
  - Multiple
  - Social
  - Spatial (visuospatial)
- Types**


**Abilities,  
traits,  
and  
constructs**

- Cognition
- Cognitive liberty
- Communication
- Creativity
- Fluid and crystallized intelligence
- *g* factor
- Intellect
- Intelligence quotient
- Knowledge
- Learning
- Memory
- Problem solving
- Reasoning
- Skill
- Thought (abstraction)
- Understanding
- Visual processing

**Models  
and  
theories**

- Cattell–Horn–Carroll theory
- Fluid and crystallized intelligence
- Multiple-intelligences theory
- PASS theory
- Three-stratum theory
- Triarchic theory
- Evolution of human intelligence

**Areas of  
research**

- Heritability of IQ
- Psychometrics
- Intelligence and environment / fertility / height / health / longevity / neuroscience / personality / race / sex
-  Outline of human intelligence / thought

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Learning

**Non-associative learning**

- Habituation
- Sensitization
- Classical conditioning

**Associative learning**

- Imprinting
- Observational learning
- Operant conditioning

**Insight learning**

- Abductive reasoning
- Deductive reasoning
- Inductive reasoning

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## Mental processes

### Cognition

- Association
- Awareness
- Cognitive flexibility
- Cognitive liberty
- Forecasting
  - affective
- Foresight
- Comprehension
- Consciousness
- Critical thinking
- Decision-making
- Imagination
- Intuition
- Problem solving
  - methods
  - strategies
- Prospection
- Amodal
- Color
  - RGB model
- Depth
- Form
- Haptic (Touch)
- Perception as interpretation
- Peripheral
- Social
- Sound
  - Harmonics
  - Pitch
  - Speech
- Visual
- Consolidation
- Encoding
- Storage
- Recall

### Perception

### Memory

## Other

- Attention
- Experiential avoidance
- Higher nervous activity
- Intention
- Ironic process theory
- Learning
- Mental fatigue
- Relational frame theory
- Mental set
- Thinking
- Thought suppression
- Volition

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## Frequently Asked Questions

What are the key benefits of implementing an in-house training program for medical coding teams?

In-house training programs can be tailored to meet specific organizational needs, ensure consistent updates on coding practices and regulations, improve accuracy and efficiency, enhance team cohesion, and reduce external training costs.

**How can we ensure our in-house training program stays up-to-date with current coding standards and regulations?**

Regularly review updates from authoritative bodies like the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA) or the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), incorporate continuous professional development sessions, and engage with industry experts for insights.

**What essential topics should be covered in an effective medical coding training curriculum?**

An effective curriculum should include ICD-10-CM/PCS codes, CPT/HCPCS codes, E/M guidelines, compliance and regulatory standards, data privacy laws (like HIPAA), billing procedures, and any specialty-specific coding guidelines relevant to your practice.

**How can we measure the success of our in-house medical coding training program?**

Success can be measured through pre-and post-training assessments to gauge knowledge improvement, monitoring changes in coding accuracy rates, evaluating productivity metrics before and after training sessions, gathering participant feedback on course effectiveness, and tracking certification achievements.

**What strategies can be used to motivate coders to engage actively with ongoing in-house training programs?**



Strategies include offering incentives such as continuing education credits or career advancement opportunities upon completion of courses; creating interactive learning experiences through workshops or simulations; recognizing achievements publicly within the organization; providing flexible learning options like e-learning modules; and ensuring that content is relevant to their daily tasks.

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