



Mastery Teaching Workshop with John D. Mays

Lesson 7: Prerequisites for the Success of Mastery-based Pedagogy

Outline:

It's Not About Covering the Content. It's About Mastering the Content.

- **Proper placement**
 - Without proper placement, mastery expectations are unfair. With proper placement, expecting less than mastery is to fail to do our duty by our students.
- **Cull the curriculum**
 - We need one year of content that can be totally mastered.
 - We cannot teach every topic under the sun.
 - Eliminate “Cover” from your vocabulary.
 - Also forget about “just so they will have seen it before when they get to _____.”
 - Address and master what needs to be mastered.
- **Establish and publish learning objectives for each course.**
 - Students must be told exactly what they are responsible for mastering.
 - Objectives should not say, “be familiar with” or “know” this.
 - Instead objectives should be shown on the first day, and they should include performance verbs that could be included on an assesement.
 - Explain, Calculate, State, Define, Compare, Distinguish Between, Graph, Draw, List, Describe
 - Assess to the objectives: every question connects directly to published objectives.

