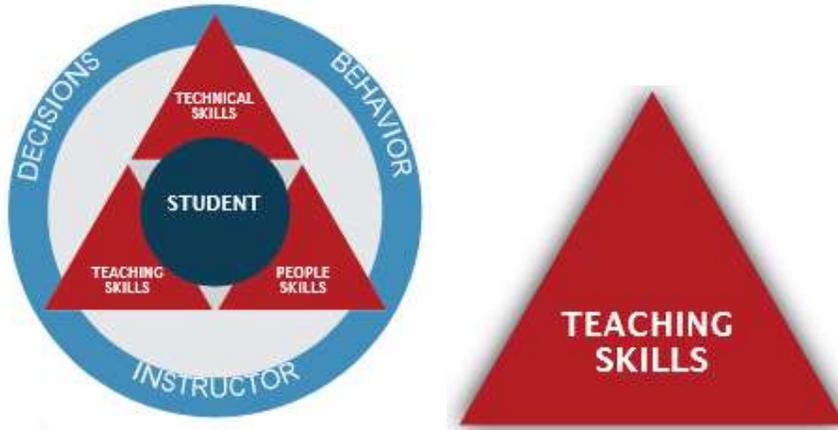


Interski 2019

United States – Teaching

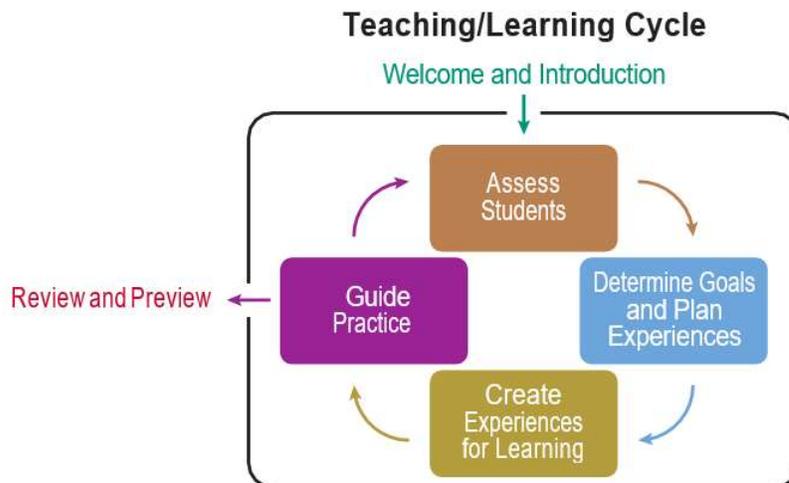
The US focused on three specific skills being technical, teaching and people.



The on-snow workshop focused on a number of teaching concepts with two overlaying concepts of:

- (i) using a Teaching/Learning Cycle to create an experiential learning environment; and
- (ii) how instructors' decisions and behaviours help to facilitate learning.

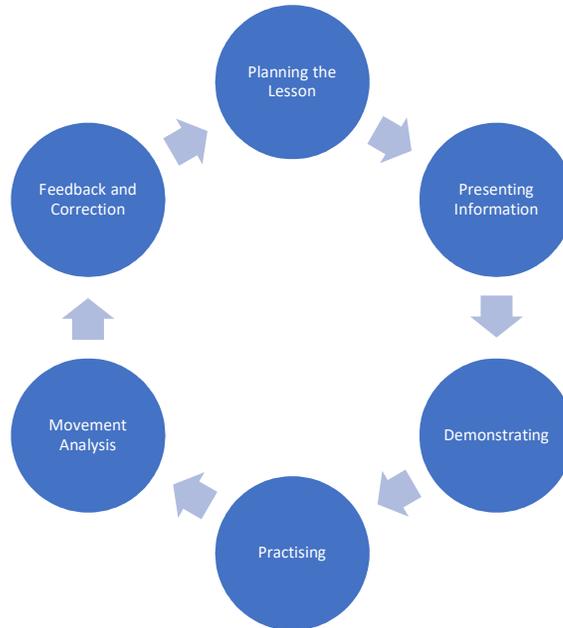
The workshop placed participants in groups of 4 with a short term goal of working on each other's skiing and a longer term goal of skiing in a formation.



We first skied as group following each other whilst viewed from the clinicians (Assess Students). Given we were at Interski the goal was to ski in a formation (Determine Goals and Plan Experiences). The clinicians then set different tasks over different terrain, changing the skier at the front within each group (Create Experiences for Learning). The clinics help by asking questions of each participant and thereby facilitating conversations with the goal that we would each learn from each other. They also asked more target questions with the long term goal of skiing in a formation, for example, did you see a different turn shape between each other? What movements may we need to change so we are able to ski in a formation?

This took the first run and then on the chairlift we then discussed what we each saw in each other's skiing and continued the discussion (and thereby learning) from the feedback of the clinicians (Guide Practice).

The Teaching/Learning cycle is similar to the APSIs 9 lesson essentials, particularly the cyclical nature of:



Teaching Skills

The workshop was summarised by highlighting the key teaching skills resulting from the mock teaching scenario these being:

- Create an environment that promotes exploration, experimentation, and play while pursuing **desired outcomes**.
- Collaborate on short-term objectives and long-term **goals**.
- Facilitate the learner's ability to recognize, reflect upon, and assess experiences and sensations.
- **Manage terrain** selection, pacing, information, and activities.
- Reinforce effort and learning, and adapt the learning environment to accommodate the **changing needs of the learner**.
- Manage emotional and physical risk within the learning environment.

There are a number of similarities again with the bolded words and the APSIs teaching philosophies.

I would like to thank Dusty and Eric for a great clinic. The key takeaway for me was the focus on facilitating the learning using a number of skills rather than forcing the learning in an environment that was overly controlled.