

## The Spectrum in Canada and Great Britain

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In 1969, Muska Mosston introduced the Spectrum of Teaching Styles in Canada at The Canadian Association for Health, Physical Education and Recreation National Conference at Victoria, British Columbia. Upon hearing his presentation, many physical educators from across Canada recognized that teaching approaches must be expanded to reach all curriculum objectives.

Mosston's initial presentation led to invitations to speak in most of the nation's provinces at provincial conferences and universities. He hosted an intensive one-week workshop on teaching behavior at the Faculty of Education, Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario. This workshop, held for three consecutive summers, was attended by educators from various teaching disciplines throughout Ontario. Mosston's work in Ontario in the early 1970s made many educators aware of the range of teaching styles available. Thus, they began to expand their teaching styles to better meet students' needs and reach objectives.

The Spectrum was the answer to my challenge of creating a 60-hour course to introduce student teachers to the teaching process and all it involves. Since 1969, the Spectrum has been used as the platform in a course for physical education majors at the Faculty of Education at Queen's University. Since then, over 2,000 physical education students have been exposed to the Spectrum. In the course, students learn the theory of the Spectrum, experience the various styles in the gymnasium, and then participate in televised micro-teaching episodes in specific teaching styles as described by the Spectrum. Students use Mosston and Ashworth's micro-teaching analysis tools to evaluate whether behaviors are appropriate for the teaching style in each episode. Currently, many other teacher training institutions in Canada also use the Spectrum as a platform for their work with student teachers.

The Spectrum was introduced in Scotland, England, and Wales as a result of an announcement in the CAHPER Journal in 1978 regarding a summer workshop I was to present on Mosston's Spectrum of Teaching Styles. I was invited to Dunfermline College of Physical Education in Edinburgh, Scotland to make a presentation to the faculty on Mosston's work and how useful it can be for a teacher education program. This led to a series of one-week staff development workshops that were held each spring for four years. Participants experienced videotaped micro-teaching sessions in a number of teaching styles.

As part of each spring's visit to Edinburgh for these major workshops, a series of inservice workshops were presented to teachers in various regions of Scotland. The Spectrum of Teaching Styles continues to be used at the Moray House Scottish School of Physical Education, and inservice workshops are still held in various regions of Scotland.

The introduction of Mosston's work in England and Wales was expanded in 1985 when a former department head at Dunfermline was appointed as head of the Chelsea School of Human Movement in Eastbourne, England. I was invited to present the Spectrum to her staff as well as visiting lecturers from other major teacher training institutions. I was later invited to present sessions throughout the U.K. Mosston's work was presented to teachers in North Wales in the spring of 1990 and 1991. Nearly 100 presentations have been offered on the Spectrum in the U.K. during the last 14 years.

A statement from the New National Curriculum for all subject areas in Great Britain explains why educators overseas so positively receive Mosston's work:

The more the curriculum includes objectives which go beyond subject matter and promote the development of particular attitudes and capabilities, the stronger are the implications for the variety and range of teaching approaches to be employed if all the objectives are to be reached. It follows that no single style of teaching will be suitable for all purposes (Department of Education and Science, 1985).

These educators recognize the Spectrum as an essential tool to help them meet the demands of the New National Curriculum.

### Reference

Department of Education and Science. (1985). *The curriculum from 5 to 16*. London: Author.

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