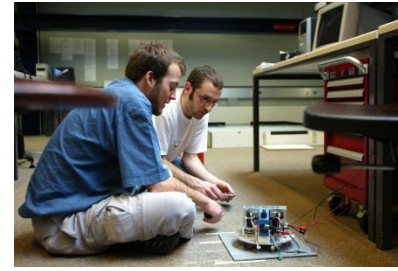


# Review of last week

- What did you learn about yourself?
- What do you still need to practice?
- When will you use these skills?
- What feedback do you have for us as organisers?



# The Role of Others in Learning

Roland Tormey  
How People Learn I

Teaching Support Centre / Centre d'appui à l'enseignement  
Email: [roland.tormey@epfl.ch](mailto:roland.tormey@epfl.ch)

# Learning Aims

- You will today be able to define/explain:
  - Cognitive apprenticeship
  - Disciplinary epistemologies
  - Self-effectiveness
  - Performance and Mastery goals
  - Locus of control
  - Pygmalion in the Classroom experiment

# Learning (so far)

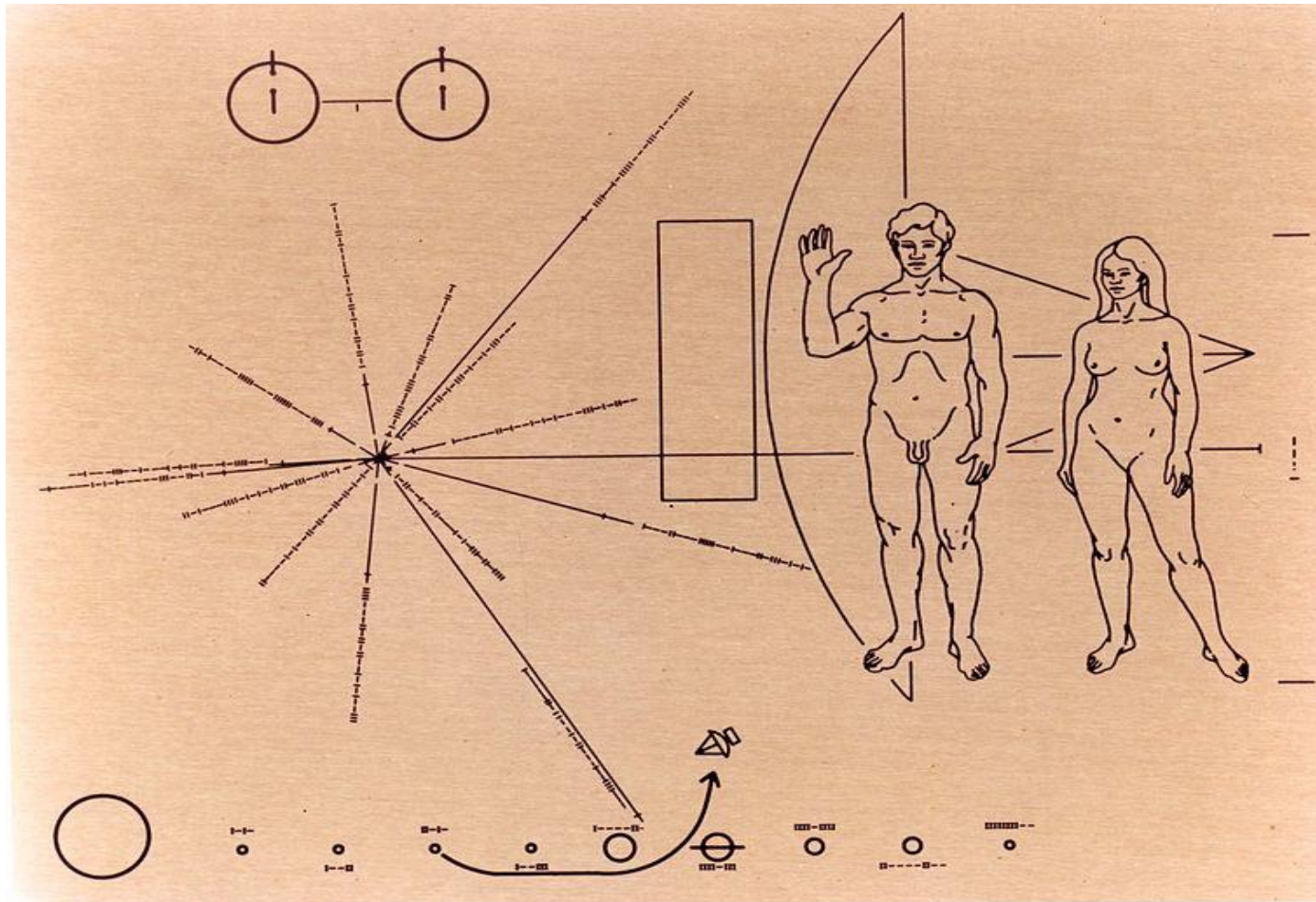
- individualistic learning
  - Individual has an experience
  - Processes it to make connections (between ideas; actions)
  - Repeats the connections, experience
  - Motivated to do the work involved

# What about other people?

- 1961 – Albert Bandura Bobo Doll Experiment
  - “Is seeing violence cathartic?” ([Link](#))
- Social Learning Theory
  - We learn through observation and modelling
  - We internalise others’ views of us

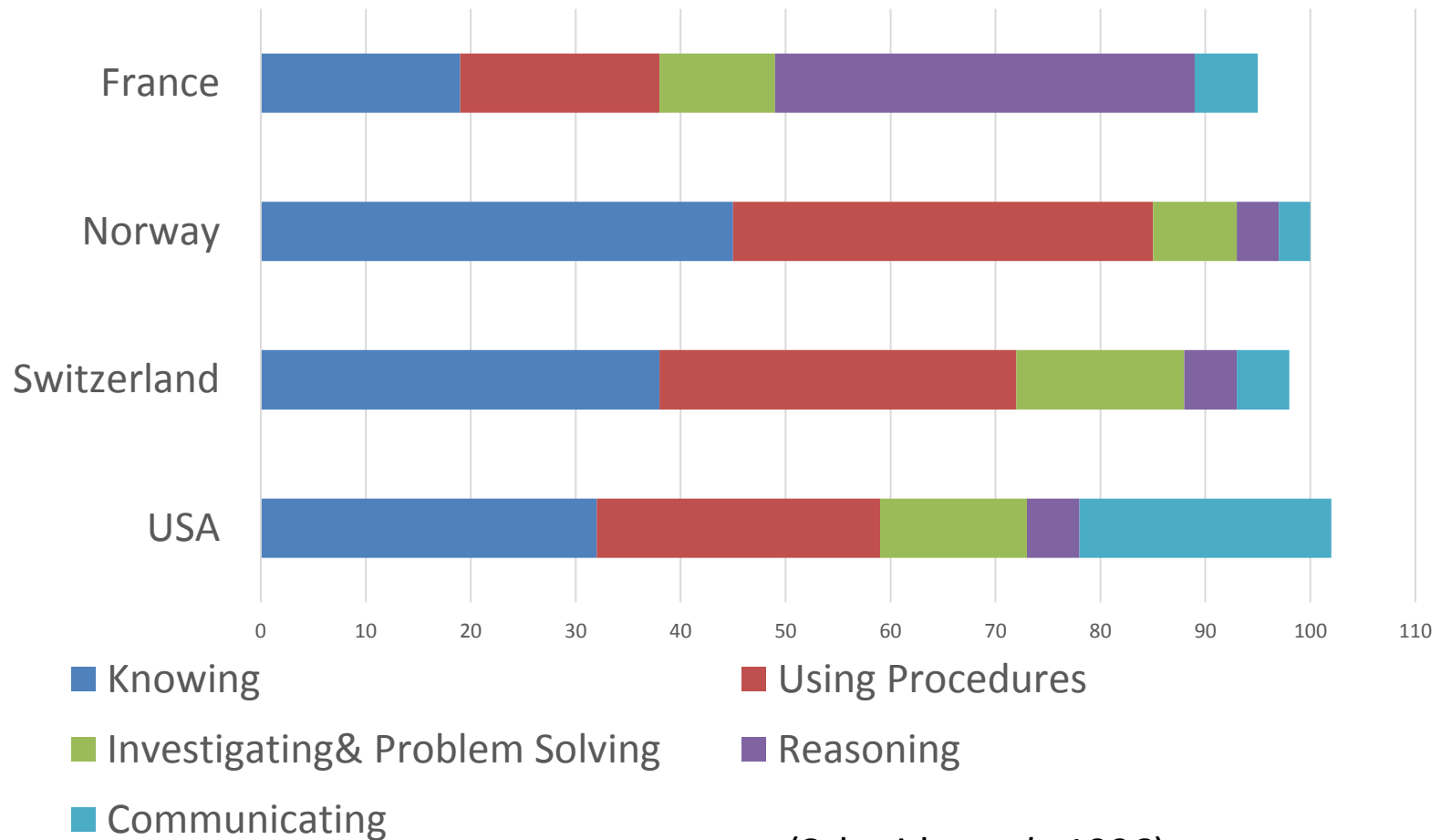
# **We model our disciplines**

# Is math a universal language?



# Maths across cultures

Cognitive complexity in Math Textbooks aged 13 years

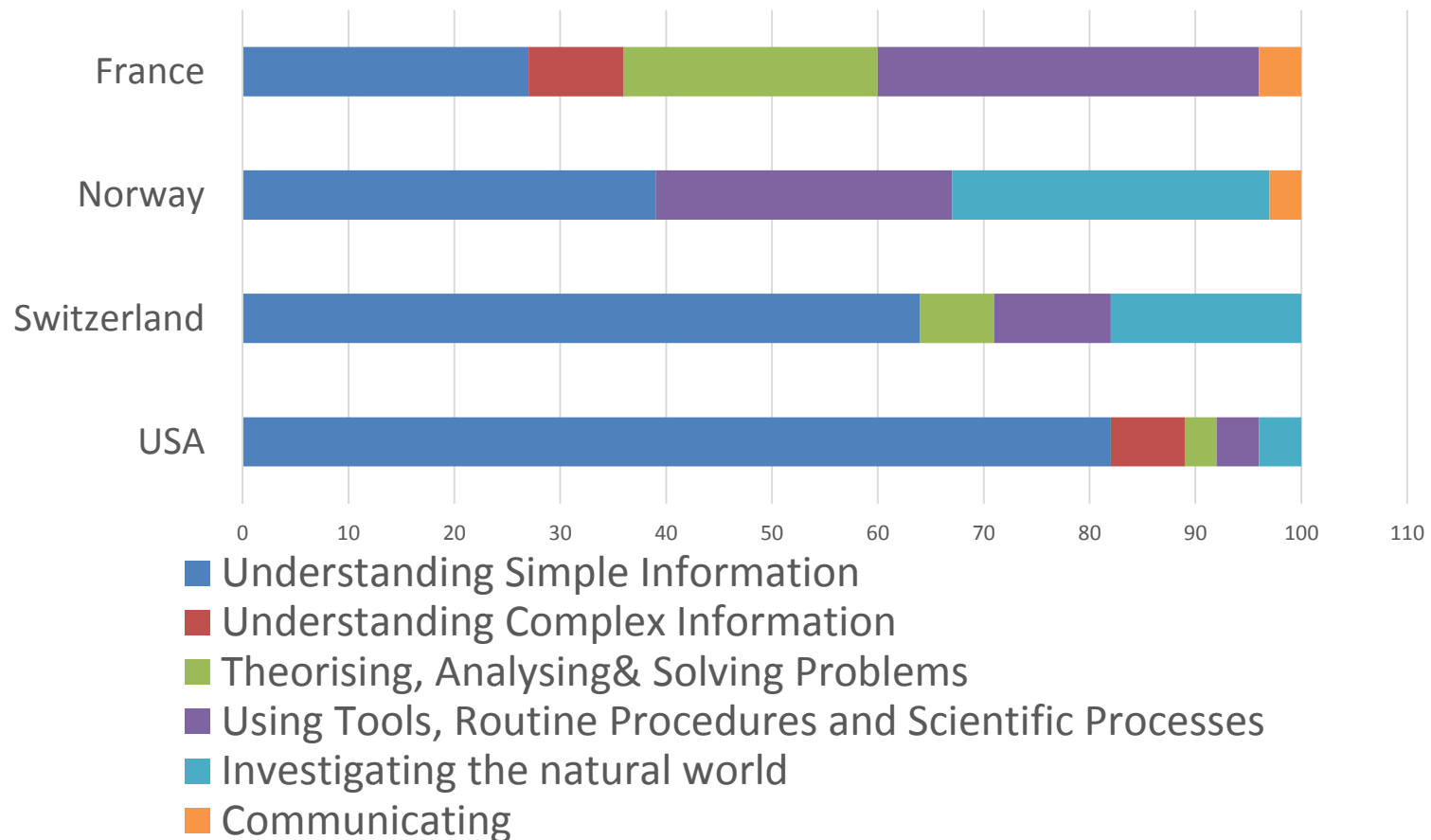


(Schmidt *et al.*, 1996)



# Science across cultures

Cognitive complexity in textbooks on chemical properties  
of matter aged 13 years



# Cognitive apprenticeship

- Learning the “ways of thinking”
- ***Disciplinary epistemologies***: rules for learning / finding out distinctive to disciplinary cultures
  - inductive vs. deductive approaches
  - Received knowledge vs. knowledge construction
  - Simplified vs uncertain models
  - ....

# Activity

What are key features of the disciplinary epistemology of your discipline?

How do you/should you model them?

# Internalising the others' gaze

# Social Cognitive Theory

## Achievement Outcomes

Progress towards goals



## Social Influences

Models Observed  
Instruction  
Feedback  
Expectations

## Reciprocal Determinism

### Personal Influences

Prior Knowledge  
Processing of information

Goals (Interests)  
Motivations  
Self-Efficacy Beliefs

Self-regulatory processes

# Self-efficacy beliefs

- “ extent or strength of one's belief in one's own ability to complete tasks”
- Distinct from outcome expectancy
  - Not “If I follow the procedure I will get the right answer” but “I can solve this kind of problem”
- Distinct from self-confidence
  - Not: “I am good at mathematics,”
  - rather, “I am confident I can correctly solve calculus problems in a range of settings.”

# Self-efficacy and performance

- Self-efficacy associated with:
    - Choosing more challenging tasks
    - Putting in greater effort
    - Increased persistence
    - Reduced stress, anxiety and depression
    - Higher self-monitoring and evaluation
    - $r = .38$ , account for approximately 14% of the variance in students' academic performance
- (Zimmerman, 2000)

# Sources of self-efficacy

- Mastery experiences
  - Outcomes perceived as positive
- Vicarious experiences
  - How have others achieved (in a context in which I lack experience)
- Social persuasions
  - Feedback from others
- Feelings of anxiety, stress, fatigue etc.



- “enactive mastery experiences are stated as the most powerful source of creating a strong sense of efficacy”
  - Tasks set appropriate for student’s developmental level
  - Goals clearly specified (feedback!)
  - Self-reflection on experience and successes

# Activity

Design an activity aimed at increasing 1<sup>st</sup> years students' sense of self-efficacy in your discipline.

# Gender and Self Efficacy

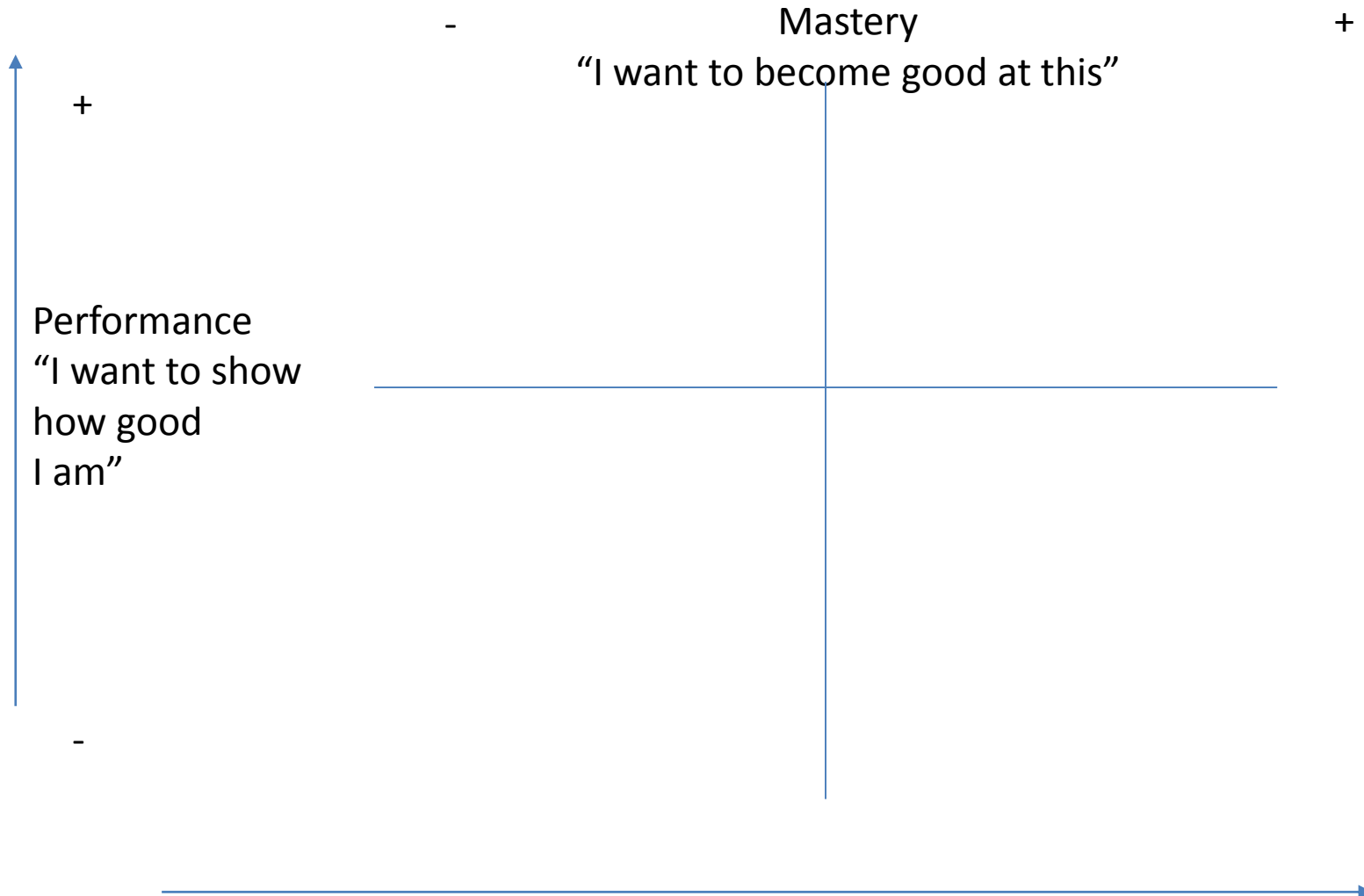
- Besterfield-Sacre et al. noted that:
- 1<sup>st</sup> year female engineering students **had lower confidence in their basic engineering knowledge and skills, problem-solving abilities,** and overall engineering abilities than male engineering students

# Locus of control

- Who/what is responsible for success?
  - IQ?
  - Being gifted at a particular subject?
  - “I was unlucky with the questions” or “the teacher was tricky with the questions”
- vs.
- “I took a risk in preparing for some questions and it cost me”

- Internal “locus of control” associated with:
  - reduced stress
  - greater adaptive response to failure
  - ...

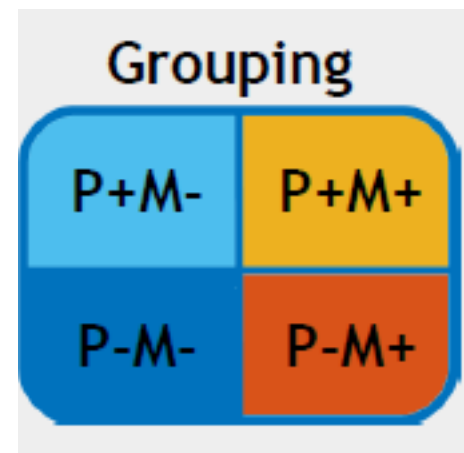
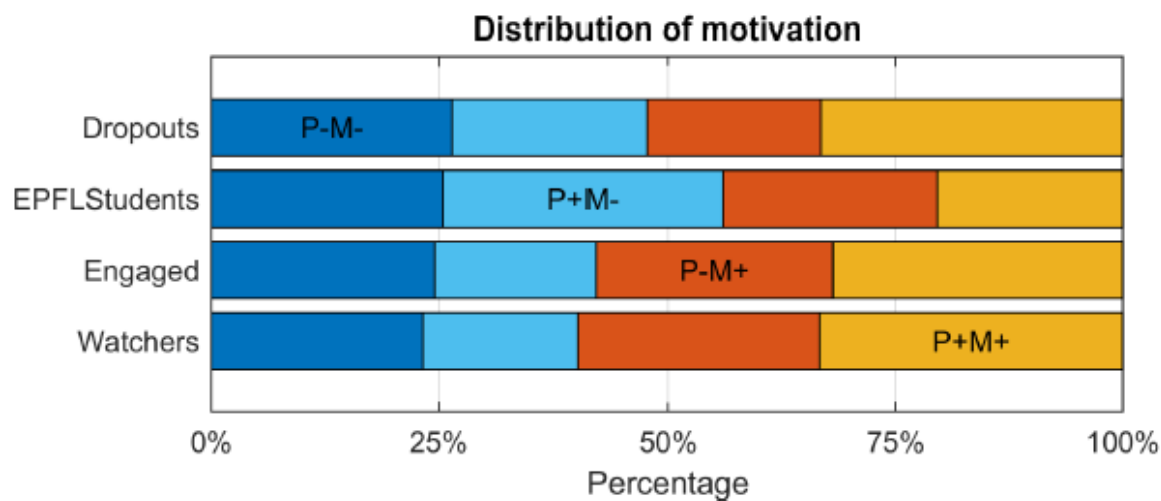
# Goals



# Goals

- High Mastery/High Performance tend to rate higher on:
  - Valuing of tasks
  - Enjoyment
  - Risk taking
  - Self-efficacy
  - (Attainment)

# Motivation and MOOC performance



By: Du Bois, Fol,  
Ghadiani  
Künster

		Result on first assignments			
		Low	High	Low	High
P+	51%	84%	61%	79%	
P-	67%	72%	84%	85%	
		M-		M+	

Based on 1158  
Participants  
Completing  
An EPFL MOOC



# How we communicate expectations

Do we have high expectations of learners?

– Oak School Experiment (Pygmalion effect)

- Created artificial expectations among teachers that some pupils would do well (created teacher expectations)
- Testing showed that those pupils **did** do well
- **System level:** streaming/ banding, different schools (PISA 2010)
- **Classroom level:** ask challenging questions; give time to answer; communicate high expectations; assessment for learning

- 1994 Rosenthal: the average correlation between teacher expectancy and educational outcomes was  $r=.26$ .
- Key types of effect:
  - **Climate effects:** teachers seem to create a warmer environment for their favoured pupils.
  - **Input effects:** teachers appear to direct more material towards favoured students and to teach them more difficult material.
  - Output effects: teachers appear to give favoured students more opportunities to respond
  - Feedback effects: teachers appear to give more informative and directive feedback to more favoured pupils.

# Conclusion

- Not all about the learner. Others can influence our learning too:
  - Cognitive apprenticeship
  - Disciplinary epistemologies
  - Self-effectiveness
  - Performance and Mastery goals
  - Locus of control
  - Pygmalion in the Classroom experiment

# Implications for teaching

- Be clear about how to think in your subject
  - Model how to think
- Maximise self-efficacy, internal locus of control
  - Provide mastery experiences
  - Address social persuasions
  - Minimise (performance`) anxiety
- Feedback for mastery not performance
  - Not graded