

# Exploring Andragogy: Understanding the Implications for Teaching in Higher Education

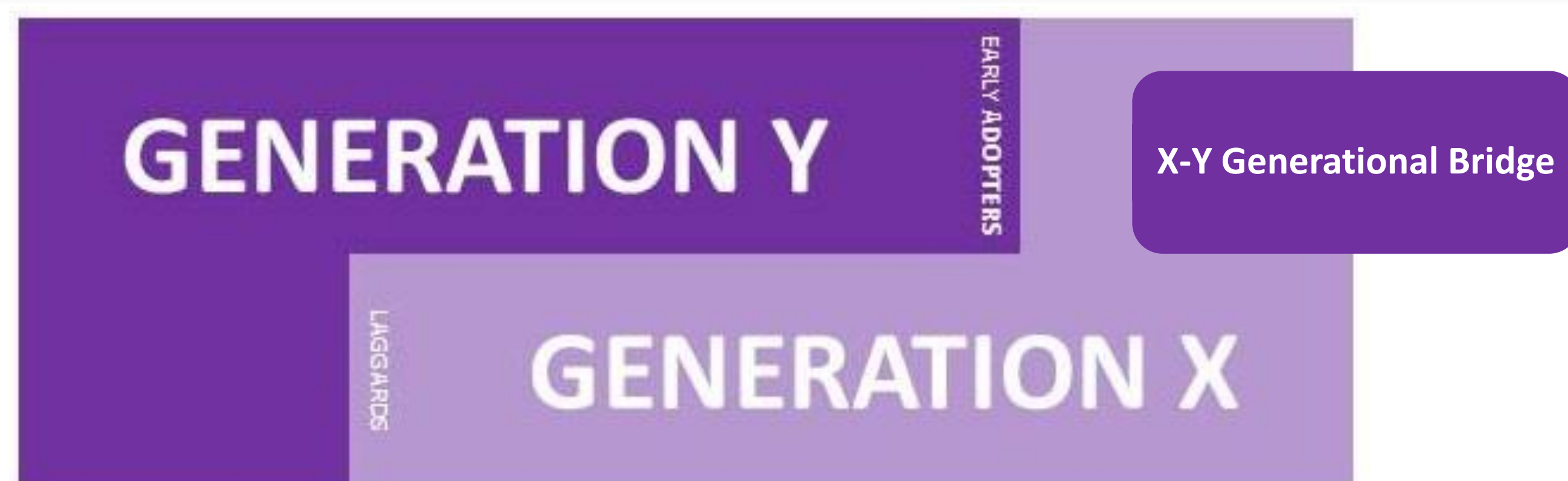
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**Andragogy is the theory and practice of educating adults.**

**What are the differences between teaching HE students of different age groups?**

**Do these differences become more prevalent with age, and does this matter?**

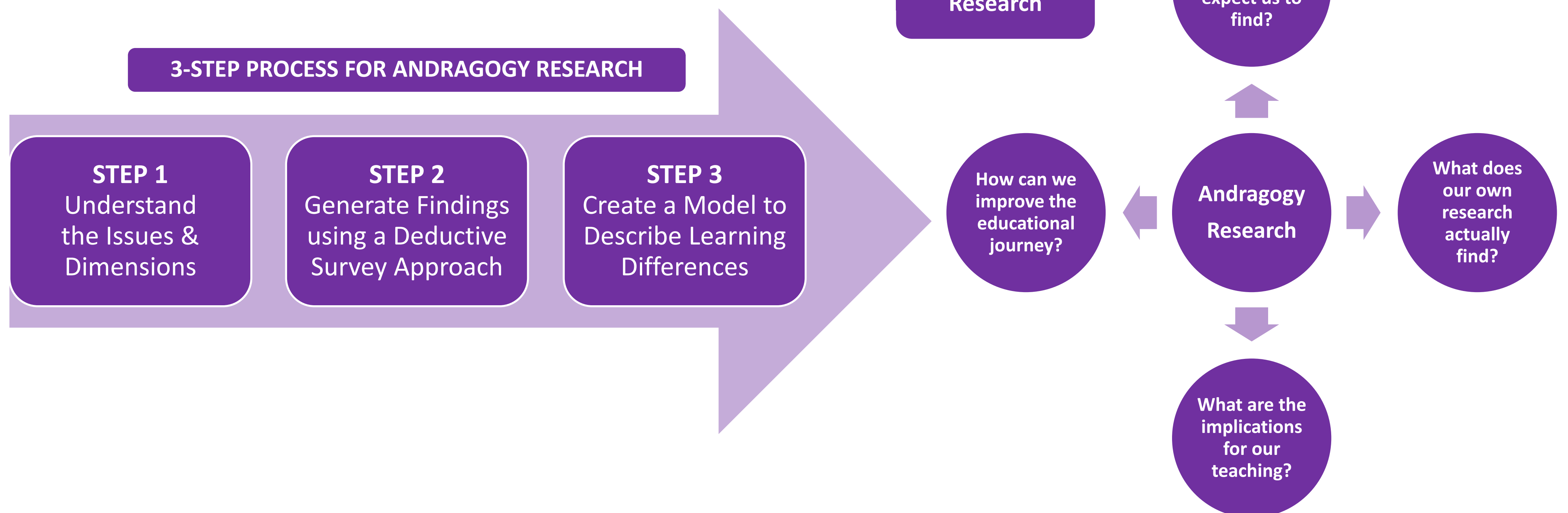
**Should we revise our teaching practices to maximise engagement with mature students?**



## Expected Outcomes:

- Improved student experience
- Improved personalisation of teaching
- Improved engagement of mature students
- Improved effectiveness of teaching practices

## 3-STEP PROCESS FOR ANDRAGOGY RESEARCH



## ANDRAGOGY

### Knowles' 4 Principles:

1. Adults need to be involved in the planning and evaluation of their instruction
2. Experience (including mistakes) provides the basis for the learning activities
3. Adults are most interested in learning subjects that have immediate relevance and impact to their job or personal life
4. Adult learning is problem-centred rather than content-oriented

### Knowles' 5 Assumptions:

1. Self-Concept (Self-Directed)
2. Adult Learner Experience
3. Readiness to Learn
4. Orientation to Learning
5. Motivation to Learn

## References:

Knowles, M., 1990. *The adult learner: a neglected species*. Houston: Gulf Publishing.

Knowles, M., 1984. *Andragogy in action: applying modern principles of adult learning*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.