



MA Community Development

University of Westminster

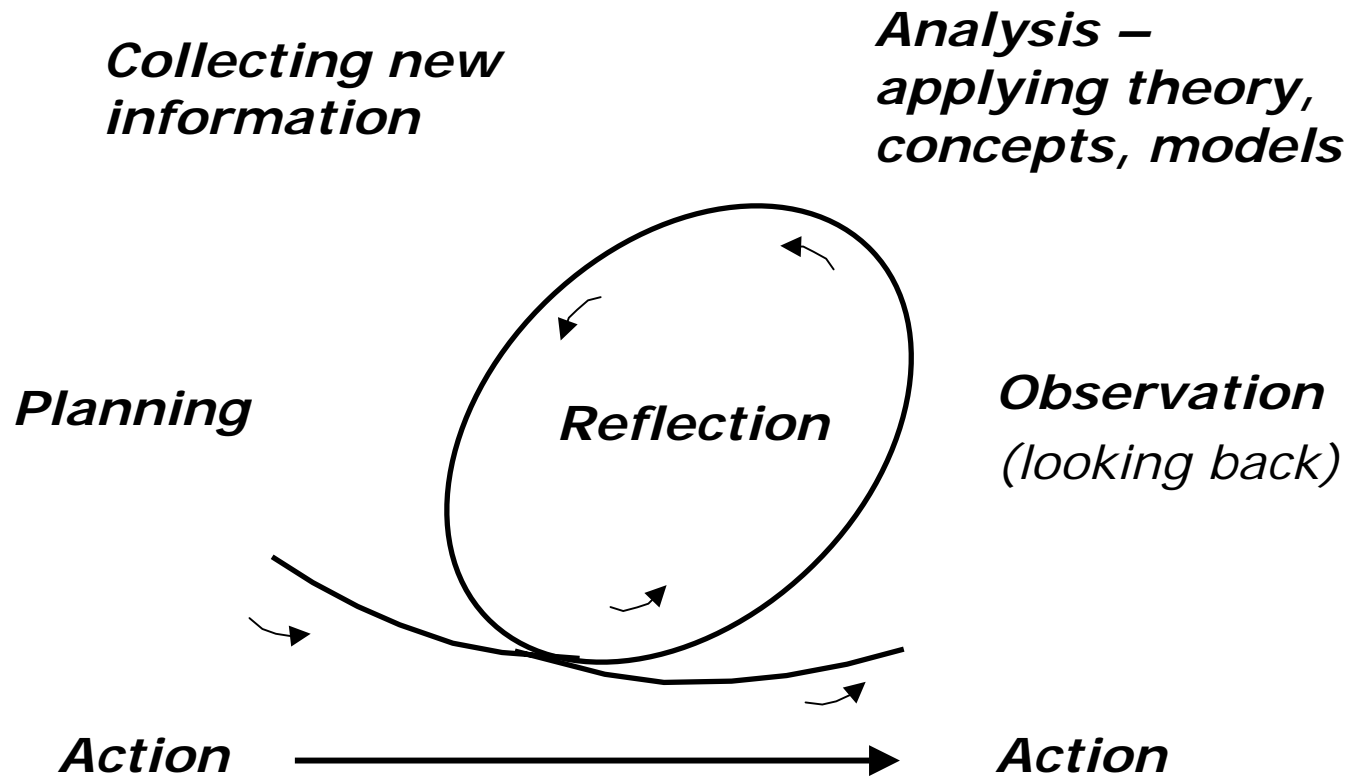
Geoff Wykurz & Claudette Carr



Learning through experience

- Experiential Learning
- Reflective Practice
- International Perspective

The Reflective Cycle



After Hope & Timmel (1984)

New Modules

With an experiential dimension:

- Community Work Principles & Practice
 - exploring identity, difference and anti-oppressive practice
- Power & Empowerment
 - interviewing people
- International Perspectives on Practice
 - comparing practice with a 'counterpart' in another country

ESB Endorsement

- 2002 – the visit
- 2004 – submission
- 2005 – initial endorsement
- 2005 – compliance with condition

ESB Visit

ESB Reporter's Comments

“The level of reflection was sophisticated, and encouragement to develop this skill was one of the aspects of the course that students seemed to particularly appreciate.

For example, when asked how relevant the course was to their work, one student replied “It’s relevant to my life!”

ESB Visit (continued)

“This student went on to describe how use of a learning journal had made her feel “wobbly” at work because she had started to question all her interactions with users and workers, particularly in terms of power and how she used her own power.

It had been like starting afresh and had profoundly affected her practice. “

ESB Condition

- The ESB Panel considered that:

'The quality of participants' Community Development Work practice prior to entry and during the programme should be assessed using the National Occupational Standards as a basis.'

It was suggested that, 'this could be undertaken by participants and/or with others involved with the programme or their community development work'.

Quotations from ESB letter August 2004

Response to ESB

- Desire to be consistent with principles of practice and learning
- Students as adult learners should be in control of their learning
- Creation of three elements:
 - Pre-course reflective questionnaire
 - Learning Agreement
 - Portfolio with guidelines

ESB Endorsement

- ESB: 'We are really impressed'
- Sept 2005 – five year endorsement awarded!!

Yippee wow wow!!