

<u>Stage of Intellectual Maturity (Approximate Perry Levels)</u>	<u>Perceptions of Knowledge</u>	<u>Abilities to Make Commitments</u>	<u>How Solutions to Problems are Perceived</u>	<u>Perceptions of the Responsibility of Learners</u>	<u>Perceptions of the Responsibility of Experts as Teachers</u>
Dualism - Individuals at this level are concrete thinkers who believe things are right/wrong, we/they, good/bad.	Knowledge is a set of truths.	I have faith in, and a commitment to, truth and knowledge as it is stated by genuine authorities.	There is a single correct solution to every problem.	I receive explanations of knowledge and become uneasy when asked to think independently, draw conclusions, or give my points of view.	Experts are authorities with an ability to explain and give me correct answers.
Multiplicity - At this level they recognize that diversity in thinking exists. Uncertainty prevails because all opinions are valid.	Knowledge is a matter of educated opinion.	I feel no need to commit to any specific belief or mode of thinking.	There is no one right solution to a problem, because all are equally valid.	I listen to experts, but have a right to my own opinions.	Experts explain course material to me and express their opinions.
Relativism - When they reach this level they perceive that all knowledge is relative, and that they need to orient themselves based on evidence.	Knowledge is not universal, but a matter of context and situation. What is true in one situation may be false in another.	I feel there is a need for some form of personal commitment.	Ambiguity is part of life, so I must defend my own position on problem solutions based on evidence.	I make comparisons to distinguish between weak and strong evidence in determining knowledge.	Based on their experience, experts teach procedures and analytic methods to help me reason and compare alternatives.
Commitment - Finally, at this level they develop the need to take positions and commit to them.	Knowledge is constructed from experience, what is learned from others, and from reflective thinking.	I feel the need to make commitments, especially a personal commitment to learning.	There are many solutions to each problem; some are better, and some are worse. I must take a stand on issues based on my personal values and analysis.	I learn and I integrate new knowledge with what I already know.	Experts are mentors that challenge my assumptions to support my learning.