



Simulated Person Methodology (SPM)

Simulation is an experiential education approach that has been utilized in the education sectors for decades. Simulated Person Methodology (SPM) involves simulation that utilizes humans trained to play roles that are designed to meet learning objectives and provide realistic and specific practice. SPM Lab is developed by York University Associate Professor, Dr. Eva Peisachovich, through research as an evidence-based method to experiential learning.

The Health Leadership and Learning Network (HLLN) works with SPM Lab to utilize simulation to replicate real workplace issues. Learners will have the opportunity to apply knowledge and practice real-life skills needed in the workplace. A simulated person (SP) is trained to realistically reproduce scenarios by providing specific information, displaying signs and behaviours, and creating an experiential encounter, in a consistent manner.

The simulation experience involves three phases:

Phase 1: Pre-briefing

Phase 2: Simulation activity

Phase 3: Debriefing - HLLN facilitators are trained to provide learners with feedback about their professional manner, attitude, interpersonal and communication skills, thus promoting individualized, rather than standardized learning. The feedback is



immediate and from the person-centred point of view, providing a highly effective learning experience.

Examples of skills learners may develop through simulation (depending on your class context) include:

- Demonstrate application of critical thinking, reasoning, and effective communication skills
- Demonstrate empathy, partnership, collaboration, gentle persuasion, or conflict management etc.
- Develop interviewing or coaching competencies using learned techniques
- Use body language appropriately
- Build trust and establish rapport
- Develop emotional intelligence and understanding of non-verbal cues

The simulation is artificial but the experience is real!

Remember that the learners are not acting – be yourself during the simulation!

For more questions around the evidence behind simulated person methodology, contact:

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