Cultivating Student Engagement in the Classroom through Active Learning

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Learning Goals

• Define active learning.
• Summarize 8 active learning activities.
• Identify strategies to encourage students to participate in active learning.
• Describe techniques from forming and managing student teams.
ACTIVE LEARNING: WHAT IS IT?  
(1-MINUTE PAPER)
What is Active Learning?

Active Learning is anything course-related that all students in a class section are called upon to do other than simply watching, listening, and taking notes.

KWL CHART: WHAT DO YOU WANT TO KNOW ABOUT IT? SLIDO, EVENT 3562582
Clicker questions or classroom response systems
iClicker
Poll everywhere
Mentimeter
Slido
Getting Started with Active Learning

Choose from quick and easy activities or among more complex options.

Active Learning Techniques
- Experiential Learning (site visits)
- Forum Theater
- Jigsaw Discussion
- Inquiry Learning
- Role playing
- Interactive Lecture
- Active Review Sessions (Games or Simulations)
- Case Studies
- Hands-on Technology
- Brainstorming
- Peer Review
- Group Evaluations
- Think-Pair-Share
- Informal Groups
- Triad Groups
- Large-Group Discussion
- Writing (Minute Paper)
- Pause for reflection
- Self-Assessment

This spectrum arranges active learning techniques by complexity and classroom time commitment.

Prepared by Chris O’Neal and Teretha Pinder-Grover, Center for Research on Learning and Teaching, University of Michigan
How well have active learning teaching strategies worked for you in the past?

(Idea Line Up, use and success)
• Make groups counting off
• What active learning activity have you seen works well?
CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT AND STUDENT ENGAGEMENT
Encouraging Student Participation: Trust and distance

- Increase personal trust.
- Decrease the power distance.
Instructor Behaviors

• What are some specific transformational behaviors or techniques that you can engage in to help increase interpersonal trust and decrease power distance?

• Think-pair-share (write on white boards)
Self-selected vs. Instructor-selected teams

• In survey, worst group work experiences were with self-formed groups by a 2-1 ratio (Fiechtner and Davis)

• Self-selected group has higher chance of cheating, covering for each other.

• Address the elephant in the room- that many don’t like group work or being separated from friends- and justify your choices.
What should you consider when you form teams?

- Diverse ability levels - think about what matters in your class
- Common blocks of time to meet outside of class, if required
- Avoiding isolation of minorities
Course Goals and Student Characteristics: Forming Student Teams

• Thinking about student characteristics or experiences that matter to your course content, what student characteristics might you use to determine teams?

• Group scribe
Holding groups accountable

- Group scribing of their discussions
- Always have a deliverable
Encouraging Student Participation: Rolling discussion boards

• You ask a question
• Student 1 answers your question and ask one of her own
• Student 2 answers student 1’s question and asks one of her own
Active Learning Activities from Today

- One-minute paper
- K/W/L Chart
- Classroom response system
- Idea Line-Up
- Think-pair-share
- Group scribe
- Rolling discussion board
- Gallery Walk
• How can you infuse active learning into one of your courses right now?
  – Choose one activity that fits well with your instructional design.
  – Apply it to your course content.
  – Write it on a white board.
  – Review responses.
  – Comment on or “star” ideas that interest you.
Active Learning Activities

http://louisville.edu/till/active-learning/getting-started-with-active-learning

Getting Started with Active Learning

Are you looking for new ways to practice active learning in your classroom?

Whether you are just starting with active learning or seeking to deepen and extend your active learning tool chest, this page provides targeted resources, summaries, and tips. Also, check out these online modules to learn more about getting started with active learning.

Contents

- Instructors looking for ideas of active learning options to fit their time constraints might browse the Activities category. It organizes active learning activities by level of preparation required in advance of administering the activity and in-class time necessary for students to complete it.
- The Challenges category will help you troubleshoot common issues that can arise in the active learning classroom.
- The Technology category provides technology tools to support active learning at low or no cost. These are organized by uses of the technology.

Activities and Classroom Assessment Techniques

Minimal Preparation, Quick Class Activities

K, W, L Chart (Know, Want, Learn)

K, W, L Charts are used to engage students in their learning before, during, and after a class, lesson, or unit. This activity is adaptable across subject areas and assignment types.

- Students create a chart with 3 columns and label them with K, W, and L.
- Students fill the K column with what they already know about the topic.
Questions?

You can also ask them on Slido!