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Collaborative Learning

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Outline

- Collaborative Learning (CL)
- Using CL in F2F Class Activities
- Using CL in Online Class Activities
- Think-Group-Share
- Update your personal plan with using CL in your course

Collaborative Learning (CL)

Collaborative learning is where two or more people work in groups mutually searching for understanding, solutions, or meanings, or creating a product [1].

Collaborative learning promotes several education goals including :

- *involvement* - students are more involved in the learning process by interacting significantly more with other students and teachers;

CL cont

- *cooperation and teamwork* - students working together will be confronted with different views and will therefore need to resolve these differences and build consensus in their teams;
- *civic responsibility* - encourages students to participate in shaping their ideas and values;

Why Use Collaborative Learning?

How would you use CL in your course?

CL cont

Research shows that educational experiences that are active, social, contextual, engaging, and student-owned lead to deeper learning [2]. The benefits of collaborative learning include :

- Development of higher-level thinking, oral communication, self-management, and leadership skills.
- Promotion of student-faculty interaction.

CL cont

- Increase in student retention, self-esteem, and responsibility.
- Exposure to and an increase in understanding of diverse perspectives.
- Preparation for real life social and employment situations.

Using CL in F2F Class Activities

CL may occur both at the class level and at the group or project team level.

- At the class level CL may involve
 - Students present solutions and answer questions during a class session that may benefit the entire class.
 - Project presentations are considered collaborative learning at the class level.

Using CL in F2F Class Activities cont

- At the group or team level CL may involve
 - Group/team members solving problems in class using the whiteboards
 - Team members working on the class project (note that in general for this type of class activity involves PBL and SI). Note students are required to keep a diary of all team meeting related to the class project.

Using CL in Online Class Activities

CL may occur both at the class level and at the group or project team level.

- At the class level CL may involve
 - Students post solutions and answers to questions in forums/discussion boards that may benefit the entire class.
 - Post videos of project presentations, tutorials on using tools, creation of user manuals ,etc..

Using CL in Online Class Activities cont

- At the group or team level CL may involve
 - Group/team members using various communication tools, e.g. slack, discord, WhatsApp, Skype, etc..
 - Group/team members may create artifacts using Google Docs, collaborative whiteboards etc.;.
 - Maintaining a journal of team meetings

Think-Group-Share

How would you use CL in your course?

1. Individually identify how you would use CL in your course (F2F, Hybrid and Online)
2. Share your ideas with your team members, discuss and summarize
3. Present to the audience
4. Individually create the CL plan for your course

References

1. B. L. Smith and J. T. MacGregor. *What is Collaborative Learning?* In A. Goodsell, M. Maher, and V. Tinto, editors, *Collaborative Learning: A Sourcebook for Higher Education*. National Center on Postsecondary Teaching, Learning, and Assessment, University Park, Pa., 1992
2. Center for Teaching Innovation. *Collaborative Learning*. Cornell University.
<https://teaching.cornell.edu/teaching-resources/engaging-students/collaborative-learning>
(retrieve 06/06/2019).

Summary

- Described *Collaborative Learning (CL)*
- Provided insights on how CL may be used in F2F and Online class activities
- Use Think-Group-Share approach to develop a plan to integrate CL into your class