



Team and Group Work



Interaction Checklist

- Chat
- Webcam
- Microphone



Why Group Work?

- Increases student interaction and participation
- Encourages diversity
- Encourages exchange of ideas
- Creates interdependence and builds individual accountability
- Promotes better preparation

If you have used group work in your courses, what benefits did you see?



Small Group Challenge - Intro

Select a group leader to offer a 1-to 2-minute group report back to the webinar.

Share your discipline and a course you've taught that utilizes group work.

Share a problem (and solution) you experienced with group work in that course.

Most Common Problems with Group Work

- Lack of precise, concise, and thorough instructions
- Unclear grading criteria
- Confusing or missing participation guidelines
- Logistical problems (time zone, schedule, access to same materials)

Best Practices of Effective Group Work

- Identify a clear goal and purpose
- Choose the right assignment
- Utilize group work skills
- Practice effective Design
- Promote individual responsibility
- Gather feedback



What best practice do you apply as it pertains to group work?

Group Work Scenario #1

Dr. Hanson is an experienced faculty in the Department of Communication at the University of OnlineEd. Dr. Hanson read in a research article that effective group projects engage students in online courses that result in deep learning and develop life-long learning skills. He designed and implemented a small group project assignment for his Communication class last term. At end of the course, he got mixed feedback from the students. Most of the students complained about the group project.



Small Group Challenge - Revision

Read through
the Small Group
Project
Assignment
from Dr. Hansen.

Identify two
strengths and
two weaknesses
in this group
project.

Articulate 1-2
ideas that Dr.
Hansen can use
to improve this
project.

Select a group
leader to report
findings to
webinar.

Group Report – Revision

- What strengths did you identify with the project?
- What issues did you identify?
- What are 1-2 ideas that would help improve the group project?

Building Group Work

- Type of Group Work
 - Collaborative Learning, Cooperative Learning, Problem-Based Learning, Team-Based Learning
- Group Work Activities
 - Creating, Investigating, Critiquing, Games
- Learning Objectives
- Length/Time on Task
- Deliverables
- Instructions (Individual and Group)
- Group settings (Number, Selection, Leadership, Roles)
- Tools
- Grading

Assessing Group Work

- Assess process, not just product
- Self-assessment
- Students evaluate group dynamics and contributions
- Hold individuals accountable
- Select Grading Method
 - Shared Group Grade
 - Group Average Grade
 - Individual Grade (Allocated task)
 - Individual Grade (Individual Report)
 - Individual Grade (Examination)



Thank You!

