What is Active Learning?

- Teaching method to engage learners in doing and in thinking about what they are doing.

- *Tell me, and I’ll forget. Show me, and I’ll remember. Involve me, and I’ll learn.*
Tenets of Active Learning

- Involves reading, writing, discussion or being engaged in solving problems.
- Making connections to what students are learning to what they have done in the past, what they are currently doing or what they will do in the future.

Learning is not a spectator sport.
Tenets of Active Learning

- Students are required to actively *work* on their own, in pairs or in groups.
- Emphasis is on understanding and application.
- Students are expected to be active learners.
Benefits of Active Learning

Faculty Benefits

- Teach critical thinking and teamwork skills to students.
- Generate clear objectives.
- Increase student engagement in courses.
- Create a supportive learning environment where students can take risks.
Limitations/Risks of Active Learning

- Faculty abdicate ‘expert’ role.
- Smaller amounts of information are taught.
- Students may initially grouse.
- Some may wonder “Is this teaching?”
Benefits of Active Learning

Student Benefits

- Comprehend more material and retain the information for longer periods of time.
- Enjoy classes more.
- Engage in life-long learning.
- Be responsible for his/her learning.
Active Learning and You

- **Overview:**
  - You will actively work to learn how to conduct active learning with your students.

- **Objectives:**
  - Design an active learning assignment for your class.
  - Glean ideas from your colleagues.

- **Instructions:**
  - Read descriptions of three active learning techniques.
  - Choose one technique for your class and design assignment.
  - Share assignment with peers.
    - Take 5-10 minutes to design your activity and 5 minutes to share with your group.
References


Active Learning Techniques

- One-Minute Paper
- Think-Pair-Share
- Fishbowl
- Peer Teaching
- Just-in-Time Teaching
Active Learning Techniques

- Case Studies
- Debates
- Cooperative Group Work
- Reciprocal Peer Questioning
- Buzz Groups