

Design and Implementation of Pedagogies of Engagement: Cooperative Learning and Challenge-Based Learning

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STEM Education Seminar
teaching & learning collaborative

The George Washington University
School of Engineering and Applied Science

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Session Layout

- Welcome & Overview
- Course Design Foundations
 - Understanding by Design (UdB)
 - Integrated Course Design (CAP Model)
 - Content – Assessment – Pedagogy
 - How People Learn (HPL)
 - How Learning Works (Ambrose, et al.)
- Pedagogies of Engagement – Cooperative Learning and Challenge Based Learning
 - Informal – Bookends on a Class Session
 - Formal Cooperative Learning
- Design and Implementation

Workshop Objectives

- Participants will be able to
 - Explain rationale for Pedagogies of Engagement, especially Cooperative Learning & Challenge Based Learning
 - Describe key features of Cooperative Learning
 - Apply cooperative learning to classroom practice
 - Describe key features of the Understanding by Design and How People Learn
 - Identify connections between cooperative learning and desired outcomes of courses and programs

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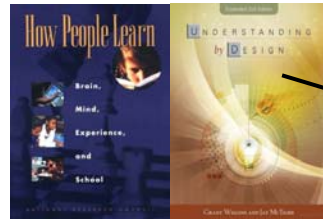
It could well be that faculty members of the twenty-first century college or university will find it necessary to set aside their roles as teachers and instead become **designers** of learning experiences, processes, and environments.

James Duderstadt, 1999 [Nuclear Engineering Professor; Dean, Provost and President of the University of Michigan]



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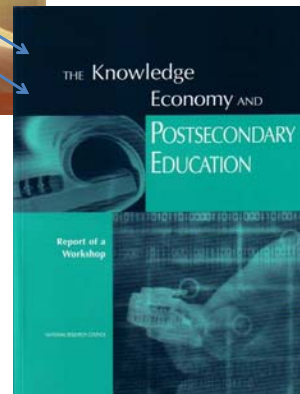
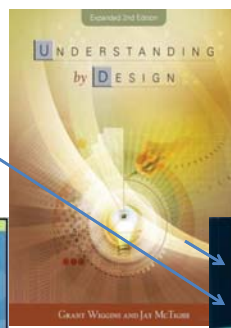
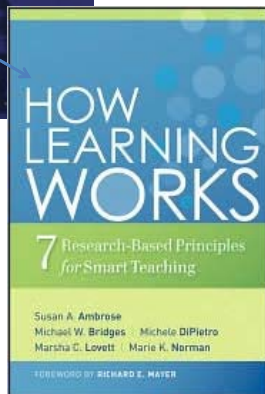
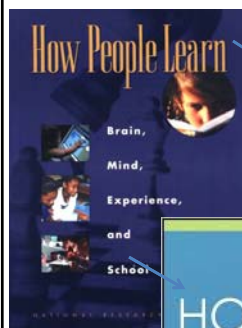
Design Foundations



Science of Instruction (UbD)

	No	Yes
Yes	Good Theory/ Poor Practice	Good Theory & Good Practice
No		Good Practice/ Poor Theory

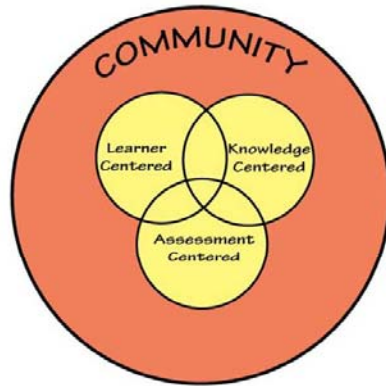
Sources: Bransford, Brown & Cocking. 1999. *How people learn*. National Academy Press.
Wiggins, G. & McTighe, J. 2005. *Understanding by design*, 2ed. ASCD.



• [Bransford, Vye and Bateman – Creating High Quality Learning Environments](#)

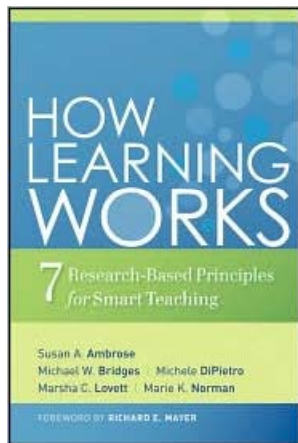
How People Learn (HPL)

HPL Framework



- Expertise Implies (Ch. 2):
 - a set of cognitive and metacognitive skills
 - an organized body of knowledge that is deep and contextualized
 - an ability to notice patterns of information in a new situation
 - flexibility in retrieving and applying that knowledge to a new problem

Bransford, Brown & Cocking. 1999. *How⁷ people learn*. National Academy Press.



1. Students prior knowledge can help or hinder learning
2. How student organize knowledge influences how they learn and apply what they know
3. Students' motivation determines, directs, and sustains what they do to learn
4. To develop mastery, students must acquire component skills, practice integrating them, and know when to apply what they have learned
5. Goal-directed practice coupled with targeted feedback enhances the quality of students' learning
6. Students' current level of development interacts with the social, emotional, and intellectual climate of the course to impact learning
7. To become self-directed learners, students must learn to monitor and adjust their approach to learning

Understanding by Design

Wiggins & McTighe (1997, 2005)

Stage 1. Identify Desired Results

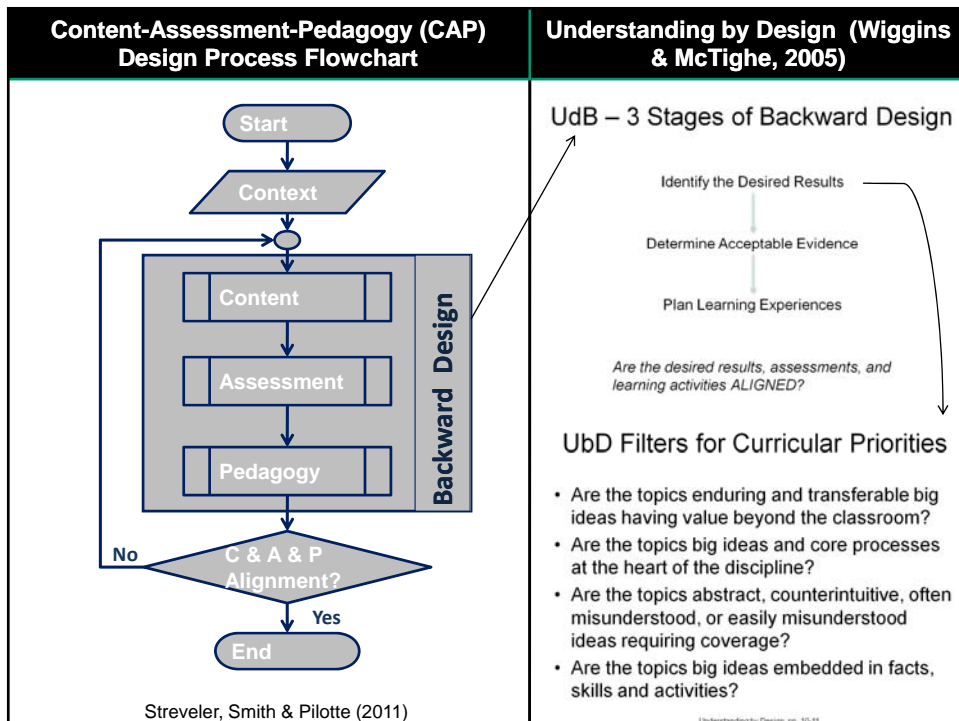
- Enduring understanding
- Important to know and do
- Worth being familiar with

Stage 2. Determine Acceptable Evidence

Stage 3. Plan Learning Experiences
and Instruction

Overall: *Are the desired results, assessments, and learning activities ALIGNED?*

From: Wiggins, Grant and McTighe, Jay. 1997. *Understanding by Design*. Alexandria, VA: ASCD



Pedagogies of Engagement



Pedagogies of Engagement: Classroom-Based Practices

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ABSTRACT

Education, researchers, and policy makers have observed student achievement for some time as an essential aspect of successful learning. In the past twenty years engineering education has implemented several means of better engaging their undergraduate students, including active and cooperative learning, learning communities, service learning, cooperative education, inquiry and problem-based learning, and team projects. The paper focuses on classroom-based pedagogies of engagement, particularly cooperative and problem-based learning. It includes a brief history, theoretical roots, research support, summary of practice, and suggestions for redesigning engineering classes and programs to include more student engagement. The paper also lays out the research about the following pedagogies aimed at more fully utilizing students' involvement in their learning.

Keywords: cooperative learning, problem-based learning, student engagement

INTRODUCTION TO THE PEDAGOGIES OF ENGAGEMENT

Russ Edgerton introduced the term "pedagogies of engagement" in his 2003 Education Week Paper [1], in which he referred to the projects on higher education funded by the Pew Charitable Trusts.

"Throughout the whole enterprise, the core issue, in my view, is the mode of teaching and learning that is practiced. Learning 'about' things does not enable students to acquire the abilities and understanding they will need for the twenty-first century."

January 2005

that center "We need new pedagogies of engagement that will turn out the kinds of resourceful, engaged workers and citizens that America now requires."

There is Edgerton's paper, the widely distributed and influential publication called *The New Principles for Good Practice in Undergraduate Education* [2], several pedagogies of engagement in response. These of the principles speak directly to pedagogies of engagement, namely, the goal of new engineering education is to foster cooperation among students and active learning.

More recently, the paper titled *The National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE)* [3] dispenses our understanding of how students perceive their learning and the learning environment. The NSSE project conveys that student engagement is not just a single course or a student's academic career, but rather a matter of the whole institution as a matter of culture. In short, NSSE findings are a reliable assessment tool for colleges and universities to track how successful their academic practices are in engaging their students today. The NSSE project is grounded in the proposition that student engagement, the frequency with which students participate in activities that represent effective educational practices, is a meaningful proxy for the quality and level of education. The standard survey of findings and results also includes how often key factors, for example, participate in projects that require integrating their own information from various sources, and read and converse with an instructor, about questions that are contributed to class discussions, received praise for their own faculty or their academic performance, participated in community-based projects, or worked on projects with other students. Student engagement is reported across five benchmarks:

1. *Level of academic challenge*: School encourages classroom by setting high expectations and emphasizing importance of student effort.

2. *Active and collaborative learning*: Students learn more when actively involved in a classroom process and are encouraged to apply their knowledge to new situations.

3. *Academically demanding*: Students able to learn from reports and faculty members are able to read and research.

4. *Learning environment*: Learning opportunities, such as study groups, learning communities, and other activities, encourage learning, collaboration, and social interaction.

5. *Supportive campus environment*: Students are motivated and confident in their ability to persist in learning and their own social interaction.

Based on the national survey of other studies in college learning [2] and a study in 100 two-year colleges, the national trend that the most common factor used by the most positive of course change in college student academic development, personal development, and confidence. These are factors that encourage student and interaction between faculty and students.

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"Throughout the whole enterprise, the core issue, in my view, is the mode of teaching and learning that is practiced. Learning 'about' things does not enable students to acquire the abilities and understanding they will need for the twenty-first century. We need new **pedagogies of engagement** that will turn out the kinds of resourceful, engaged workers and citizens that America now requires."

Russ Edgerton (reflecting on higher education projects funded by the Pew Memorial Trust)

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<http://www.asee.org/publications/jee/issueList.cfm?year=2005#January2005>

Cooperative Learning is instruction that involves people working in teams to accomplish a common goal, under conditions that involve both *positive interdependence* (all members must cooperate to complete the task) and *individual and group accountability* (each member is accountable for the complete final outcome).

Key Concepts

- Positive Interdependence
- Individual and Group Accountability
- Face-to-Face Promotive Interaction
- Teamwork Skills
- Group Processing



Cooperative Learning

Positive Interdependence

Goal Interdependence (essential)

1. All members show mastery
2. All members improve
3. Add group member scores to get an overall group score
4. One product from group that all helped with and can explain

Role (Duty) Interdependence

Assign each member a role and rotate them

Resource Interdependence

1. Limit resources (one set of materials)
2. Jigsaw materials
3. Separate contributions

Task Interdependence

1. Factory-line
2. Chain Reaction

Outside Challenge Interdependence

1. Intergroup competition
2. Other class competition

Identity Interdependence

Mutual identity (name, motto, etc.)

Environmental Interdependence

1. Designated classroom space
2. Group has special meeting place

Fantasy Interdependence

Hypothetical interdependence in situation ("You are a scientific/library prize team, lost on the moon, etc.")

Reward/Celebration Interdependence

1. Celebrate joint success
2. Bonus points (use with care)
3. Single group grade (when fair to all)

Individual Accountability

Ways to ensure no slackers:

- Keep group size small (2-4)
- Assign roles
- Randomly ask one member of the group to explain the learning
- Have students do work before group meets
- Have students use their group learning to do an individual task afterward
- Everyone signs: "I participated, I agree, and I can explain"
- Observe & record individual contributions

Ways to ensure that all members learn:

- Practice tests
- Edit each other's work and sign agreement
- Randomly check one paper from each group
- Give individual tests
- Assign the role of **checker** who has each group member explain out loud
- Simultaneous explaining: each student explains their learning to a new partner

Face-to-Face Interaction

Structure:

- Time for groups to meet
- Group members close together
- Small group size of two or three
- Frequent oral rehearsal
- Strong positive interdependence
- Commitment to each other's learning
- Positive social skill use
- Celebrations for encouragement, effort, help, and success!

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<http://www.ce.umn.edu/~smith/docs/Smith-CL%20Handout%2008.pdf>

Reflection and Dialogue

- Individually reflect on your familiarity with (1) Integrated Course Design and (2) Pedagogies of Engagement, especially Cooperative Learning. Write for about 1 minute
 - Key ideas, insights, applications – Success Stories
 - Questions, concerns, challenges
- Discuss with your neighbor for about 3 minutes
 - Select one Insight, Success Story, Comment, Question, etc. that you would like to present to the whole group if you are randomly selected

Understanding by Design

Stage 2. Determine Acceptable Evidence

Types of Assessment

Quiz and Test Items:

Simple, content-focused test items

Academic Prompts:

Open-ended questions or problems that require the student to think critically

Performance Tasks or Projects:

Complex challenges that mirror the issues or problems faced by graduates, they are authentic

Feedback and Assessment

- Forward Looking Assessment
 - Questions that incorporate course concepts in a real-life context
- Criteria and Standards
 - What traits or characteristics are indicative of high quality work?
- Self-Assessment
 - Allow students to gauge their own learning.
- FIDeLity Feedback
 - **F**requent, **I**mmEDIATE, **D**iscriminating, **L**ovingly delivered

Taxonomies of Types of Learning

Bloom's taxonomy of educational objectives: Cognitive Domain
(Bloom & Krathwohl, 1956)

A taxonomy for learning, teaching, and assessing: A revision of Bloom's taxonomy of educational objectives (Anderson & Krathwohl, 2001).

Facets of understanding (Wiggins & McTighe, 1998)

Taxonomy of significant learning (Fink, 2003)

Evaluating the quality of learning: The SOLO taxonomy (Biggs & Collis, 1982)

**The Six Major Levels of Bloom's Taxonomy of the Cognitive Domain
(with representative behaviors and sample objectives)**

Knowledge. Remembering information *Define, identify, label, state, list, match*

Identify the standard peripheral components of a computer
Write the equation for the Ideal Gas Law

Comprehension. Explaining the meaning of information *Describe, generalize, paraphrase, summarize, estimate*

In one sentence explain the main idea of a written passage
Describe in prose what is shown in graph form

Application. Using abstractions in concrete situations *Determine, chart, implement, prepare, solve, use, develop*

Using principles of operant conditioning, train a rat to press a bar
Derive a kinetic model from experimental data

Analysis. Breaking down a whole into component parts *Points out, differentiate, distinguish, discriminate, compare*

Identify supporting evidence to support the interpretation of a literary passage
Analyze an oscillator circuit and determine the frequency of oscillation

Synthesis. Putting parts together to form a new and integrated whole *Create, design, plan, organize, generate, write*

Write a logically organized essay in favor of euthanasia
Develop an individualized nutrition program for a diabetic patient

Evaluation. Making judgments about the merits of ideas, materials, or phenomena *Appraise, critique, judge, weigh, evaluate, select*

Assess the appropriateness of an author's conclusions based on the evidence given
Select the best proposal for a proposed water treatment plant

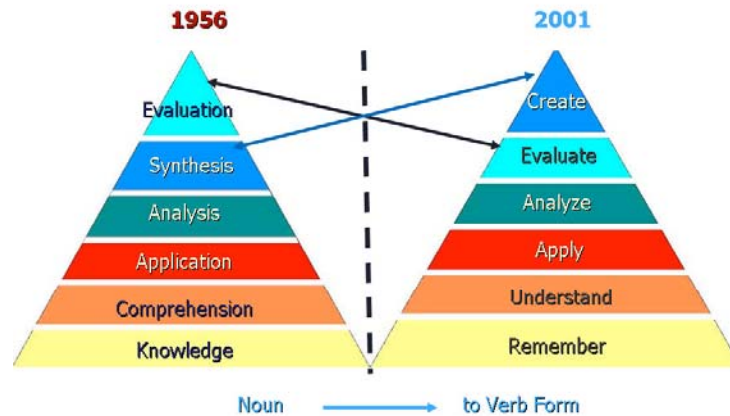
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— The Cognitive Process Dimension —→

	Remember	Understand	Apply	Analyze	Evaluate	Create
Factual Knowledge – The basic elements that students must know to be acquainted with a discipline or solve problems in it. a. Knowledge of terminology b. Knowledge of specific details and elements						
Conceptual Knowledge – The interrelationships among the basic elements within a larger structure that enable them to function together. a. Knowledge of classifications and categories b. Knowledge of principles and generalizations c. Knowledge of theories, models, and structures						
Procedural Knowledge – How to do something; methods of inquiry, and criteria for using skills, algorithms, techniques, and methods. a. Knowledge of subject-specific skills and algorithms b. Knowledge of subject-specific techniques and methods c. Knowledge of criteria for determining when to use appropriate procedures						
Metacognitive Knowledge – Knowledge of cognition in general as well as awareness and knowledge of one's own cognition. a. Strategic knowledge b. Knowledge about cognitive tasks, including appropriate contextual and conditional knowledge c. Self-knowledge		20	(Anderson & Krathwohl, 2001).			

— The Knowledge Dimension —↓

Changes to Bloom's



<http://www.uwsp.edu/education/wilson/curric/newtaxonomy.htm>

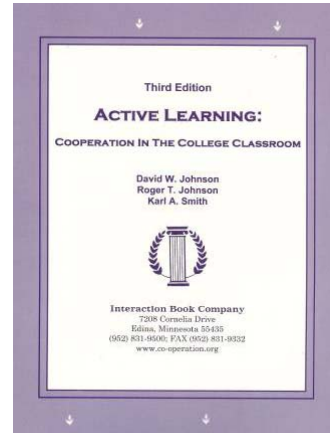
Understanding by Design

Stage 3. Plan Learning Experiences & Instruction

- What enabling knowledge (facts, concepts, and principles) and skills (procedures) will students need to perform effectively and achieve desired results?
- What activities will equip students with the needed knowledge and skills?
- What will need to be taught and coached, and how should it be taught, in light of performance goals?
- What materials and resources are best suited to accomplish these goals?
- Is the overall design coherent and effective?

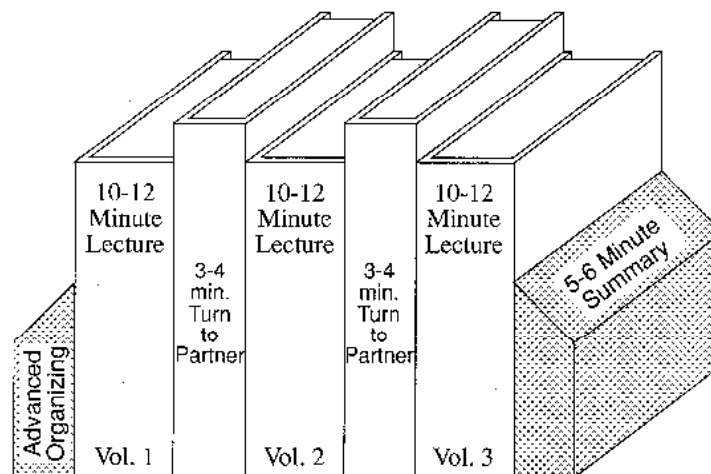
Active Learning: Cooperation in the College Classroom

- **Informal** Cooperative Learning Groups
- **Formal** Cooperative Learning Groups
- Cooperative **Base** Groups



See Cooperative Learning
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Book Ends on a Class Session



DB-102

Book Ends on a Class Session

1. Advance Organizer
2. Formulate-Share-Listen-Create (Turn-to-your-neighbor) -- repeated every 10-12 minutes
3. Session Summary (Minute Paper)
 1. What was the most useful or meaningful thing you learned during this session?
 2. What question(s) remain uppermost in your mind as we end this session?
 3. What was the “muddiest” point in this session?

Advance Organizer

“The most important single factor influencing learning is what the learner already knows. Ascertain this and teach him accordingly.”

David Ausubel - Educational psychology: A cognitive approach, 1968.

Quick Thinks

- Reorder the steps
- Paraphrase the idea
- Correct the error
- Support a statement
- Select the response

Johnston, S. & Cooper, J. 1997. Quick thinks: Active-thinking in lecture classes and televised instruction. Cooperative learning and college teaching, 8(1), 2-7.

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Formulate-Share-Listen-Create

Informal Cooperative Learning Group
Introductory Pair Discussion of a

FOCUS QUESTION

1. Formulate your response to the question **individually**
2. Share your answer with a partner
3. Listen carefully to your partner's answer
4. Work together to Create a new answer through discussion

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Minute Paper

- What was the most useful or meaningful thing you learned during this session?
- What question(s) remain uppermost in your mind as we end this session?
- What was the “muddiest” point in this session?
- Give an example or application
- Explain in your own words . . .

Angelo, T.A. & Cross, K.P. 1993. Classroom assessment techniques: A handbook for college teachers. San Francisco: Jossey Bass.

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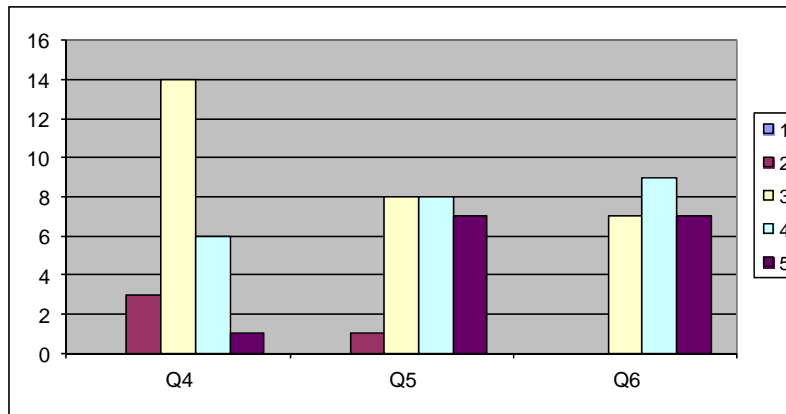
Session Summary (Minute Paper)

Reflect on the session:

1. Most interesting, valuable, useful thing you learned.
2. Things that helped you learn.
3. Question, comments, suggestions.
4. Pace: Too slow 1 5 Too fast
5. Relevance: Little 1 . . . 5 Lots
6. Instructional Format: Ugh 1 . . . 5 Ah

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MOT 8221 – Spring 2012 – Session 1 (1/6/12)

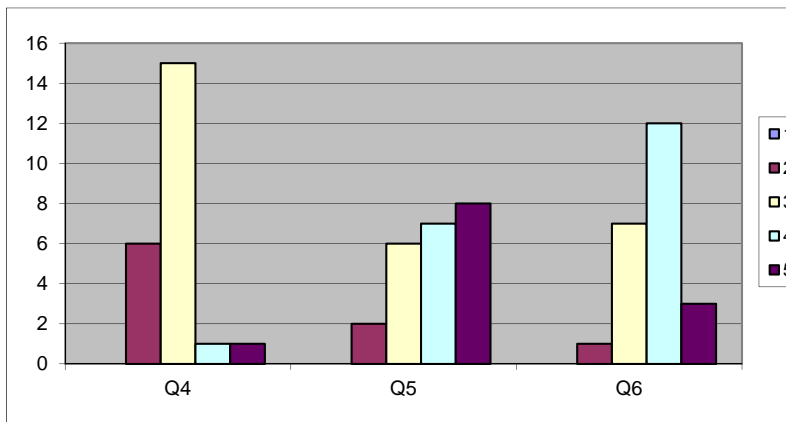


Q4 – Pace: Too slow 1 5 Too fast (3.2)

Q5 – Relevance: Little 1 . . . 5 Lots (3.9)

Q6 – Format: Ugh 1 . . . 5 Ah (4.0)

MOT 8221 – Spring 2011 – Session 1 (3/25/11)



Q4 – Pace: Too slow 1 5 Too fast (2.9)

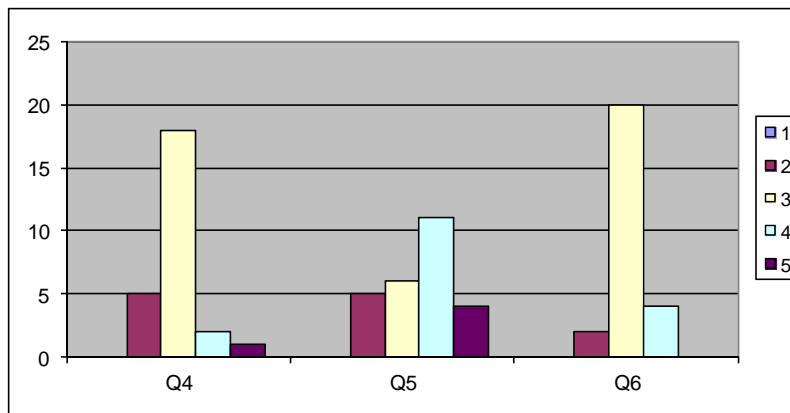
Q5 – Relevance: Little 1 . . . 5 Lots (3.9)

Q6 – Format: Ugh 1 . . . 5 Ah (3.7)

Minute Paper – Reflection

1. Most interesting, valuable, useful thing you learned.
2. Question/Topic/Issue you would like to have addressed
3. Current challenge, comments, suggestions, etc.
4. Pace: Too Slow 1 2 3 4 5 Too Fast
5. Relevance: Low 1 2 3 4 5 High
6. Discussion Control: Too Low 1 2 3 4 5 Too High

MOT 8221 – Spring 2012 – Session 2 (1/14/12)

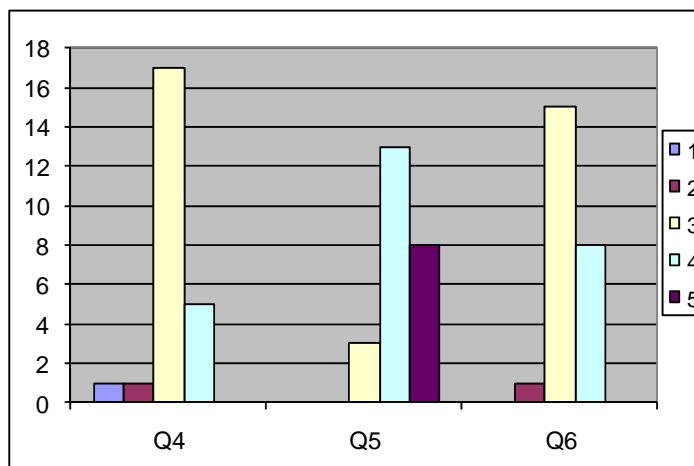


Q4 – Pace: Too slow 1 5 Too fast (3.0)

Q5 – Relevance: Little 1 . . . 5 Lots (3.5)

Q6 – Discussion Control: Too Low 1 . . . 5 Too High (3.1)

MOT 8221 – Spring 2011 – Session 2 (4/8/11)



Q4 – Pace: Too slow 1 5 Too fast (3.1)
 Q5 – Relevance: Little 1 5 Lots (4.2)
 Q6 – Discussion Control: Too Low 1 5 Too High (3.3)

Informal CL (Book Ends on a Class Session) with Concept Tests

Physics

Peer Instruction

Eric Mazur - Harvard – <http://galileo.harvard.edu>

Peer Instruction – www.prenhall.com

Richard Hake – <http://www.physics.indiana.edu/~hake/>

Chemistry

Chemistry ConcepTests - UW Madison

www.chem.wisc.edu/~concept

Video: Making Lectures Interactive with ConcepTests

ModularChem Consortium – <http://mc2.cchem.berkeley.edu/>

STEMTEC

Video: How Change Happens: Breaking the “Teach as You Were Taught”
 Cycle – Films for the Humanities & Sciences – www.films.com

Harvard – Derek Bok Center

Thinking Together & From Questions to Concepts: Interactive Teaching in Physics
 – www.fas.harvard.edu/~bok_cen/ 36

The “Hake” Plot of FCI

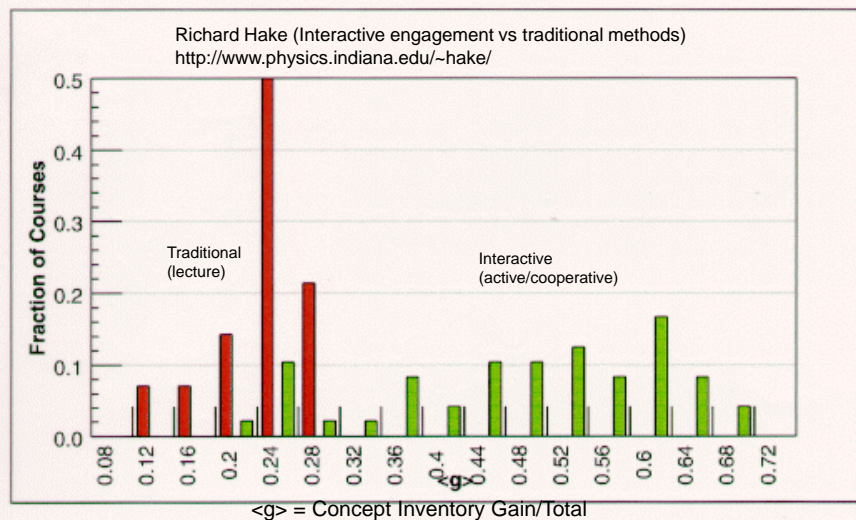
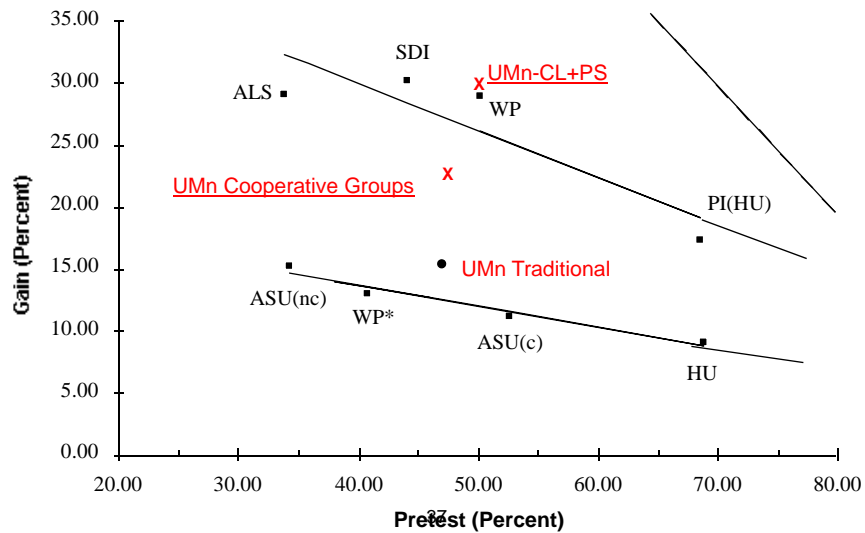


Fig. 2. Histogram of the average normalized gain $\langle g \rangle$: dark (red) bars show the fraction of 14 traditional courses ($N = 2084$), and light (green) bars show the fraction of 48 interactive engagement courses ($N = 4458$), both within bins of width $\delta \langle g \rangle = 0.04$ centered on the $\langle g \rangle$ values shown.

III. CONCEPTUAL TEST RESULTS

A. Gain vs Pretest Graph - All Data

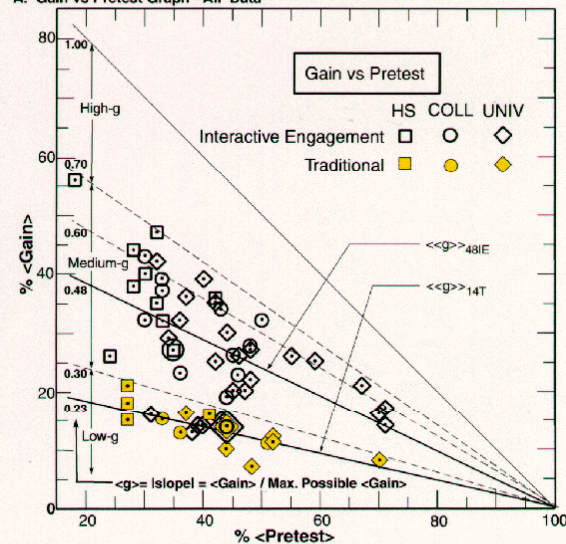


Fig. 1. $\langle g \rangle$ vs $\langle \text{Pretest} \rangle$ score on the conceptual Mechanics Diagnostic (MD) or Force Concept Inventory (FCI) tests for 62 courses enrolling a total $N = 6542$ students: 14 traditional (T) courses ($N = 2084$) which made little or no use of interactive engagement (IE) methods, and 48 IE courses ($N = 4458$) which made considerable use of IE methods. Slope lines for the average of the 14 T courses $\langle\langle g \rangle\rangle_{14T}$ and 48 IE courses $\langle\langle g \rangle\rangle_{48IE}$ are shown, as explained in the text.

Physics (Mechanics) Concepts: The Force Concept Inventory (FCI)

- A 30 item multiple choice test to probe student's understanding of basic concepts in mechanics.
- The choice of topics is based on careful thought about what the fundamental issues and concepts are in Newtonian dynamics.
- Uses common speech rather than cueing specific physics principles.
- The distractors (wrong answers) are based on students' common inferences.

Informal Cooperative Learning Groups

Can be used at any time

Can be short term and ad hoc

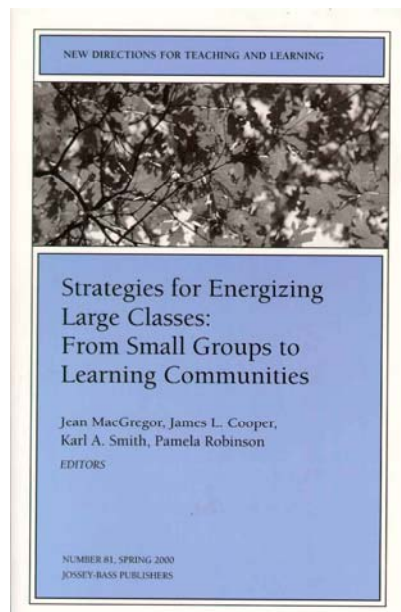
May be used to break up a long lecture

Provides an opportunity for students to process material they have been listening to (Cognitive Rehearsal)

Are especially effective in large lectures

Include "book ends" procedure

Are not as effective as Formal Cooperative Learning or Cooperative Base Groups



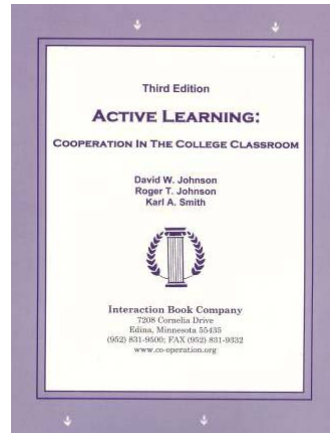
Strategies for Energizing Large Classes: From Small Groups to Learning Communities:

Jean MacGregor,
James Cooper,
Karl Smith,
Pamela Robinson

New Directions for Teaching and Learning,
No. 81, 2000.
Jossey- Bass

Active Learning: Cooperation in the College Classroom

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- • **Formal** Cooperative Learning Groups
- Cooperative **Base** Groups



See Cooperative Learning
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Formal Cooperative Learning Task Groups



How Should Colleges Prepare Students To Succeed In Today's Global Economy?

Based On Surveys Among Employers And Recent College Graduates

Conducted On Behalf Of:
The Association Of American Colleges And Universities

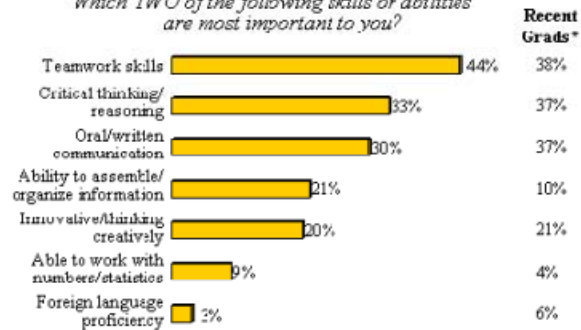
By Peter D. Hart Research Associates, Inc.

December 28, 2006

Peter D. Hart Research Associates, Inc.
1725 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20009

Most Important Skills Employers Look For In New Hires

Which TWO of the following skills or abilities are most important to you?



* Skills/abilities recent graduates think are the two most important to employers

<http://www.aacu.org/advocacy/leap/documents/Re8097abcombined.pdf>

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Top Three Main Engineering Work Activities

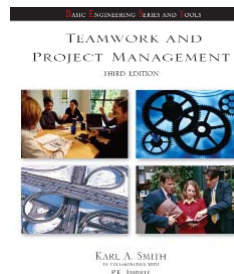
Engineering Total

- Design – 36%
- Computer applications – 31%
- Management – 29%

Civil/Architectural

- Management – 45%
- Design – 39%
- Computer applications – 20%

Burton, L., Parker, L., & LeBold, W. 1998. U.S. engineering career trends. *ASEE Prism*, 7(9), 18-21.



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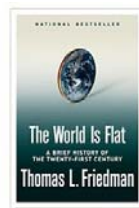
- Communication
 - Listening and Persuading
- Decision Making
- Conflict Management
- Leadership
- Trust and Loyalty

[illegible][illegible]

Idea's five-point model for strategizing by design:

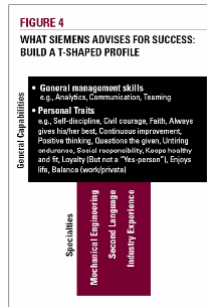
- Hit the Streets**
- Recruit T-Shaped People**
- Build to Think**
- The Prototype Tells a Story**
- Design Is Never Done**

Discipline Thinking



Tom Friedman
Horizontalize
Ourselves

$CQ+PQ>IQ$

AAC&U College Learning
For the New Global Century

Professor's Role in Formal Cooperative Learning

1. Specifying Objectives
2. Making Decisions
3. Explaining Task, Positive Interdependence, and Individual Accountability
4. Monitoring and Intervening to Teach Skills
5. Evaluating Students' Achievement and Group Effectiveness

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Formal Cooperative Learning – Types of Tasks

1. Jigsaw – Learning new conceptual/procedural material
2. Peer Composition or Editing
3. Reading Comprehension/Interpretation
4. **Problem Solving, Project, or Presentation**
5. Review/Correct Homework
6. Constructive Academic Controversy
7. Group Tests

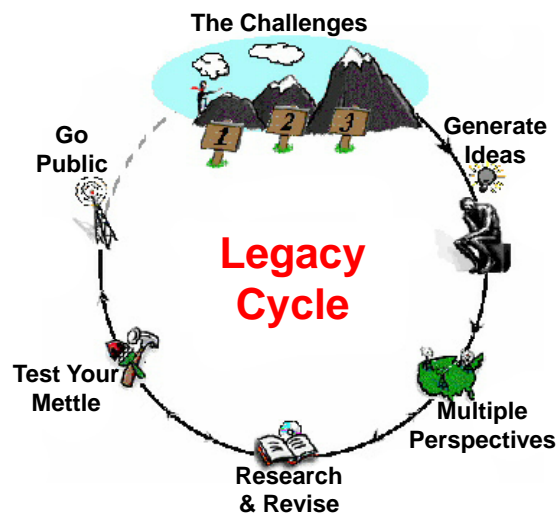
Challenge-Based Learning

- Problem-based learning
- Case-based learning
- Project-based learning
- Learning by design
- Inquiry learning
- Anchored instruction

John Bransford, Nancy Vye and Helen Bateman. Creating High-Quality Learning Environments: Guidelines from Research on How People Learn

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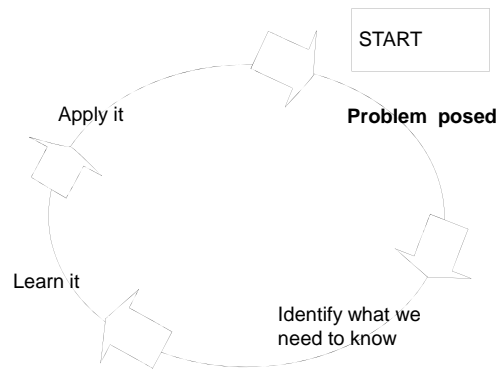
Challenge-Based Instruction with the Legacy Cycle



<https://repo.vanth.org/portal/public-content/star-legacy-cycle/star-legacy-cycle>

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Problem-Based Learning



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Problem-Based Cooperative Learning

At M.I.T., Large Lectures Are Going the Way of the Blackboard



Josh Hillis for The New York Times
The Massachusetts Institute of Technology has changed the way it offers some introductory classes. Prof. Gabriela Sculze at a class on electricity and magnetism.

By SARA RIMER
Published: January 12, 2009

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — For as long as anyone can remember, introductory physics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology was taught in a vast windowless amphitheater known by its number,

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January 13, 2009—New York Times — <http://www.nytimes.com/2009/01/13/us/13physics.html?em>

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About the SCALE-UP Project...

This research was supported, in part, by the U.S. Department of Education's Fund for the Improvement of Post-Secondary Education (FIPSE), the National Science Foundation (NSF), the National Security Agency (NSA), the Office of Naval Research (ONR), the Air Force Office of Scientific Research (AFOSR), and the Army Research Office (ARO). Opinions expressed are those of the authors and not necessarily those of our sponsors.

The primary goal of the **Student-Centered Activities for Large Enrollment Undergraduate Programs (SCALE-UP)** Project is to establish a highly collaborative, hands-on, computer-rich, interactive learning environment for large-enrollment courses.

Educational research indicates that students should collaborate as often as possible and be deeply involved with the material they are studying. We promote active learning in a redesigned classroom of 800 students or more. (Of course, smaller classes can also benefit.) We believe the SCALE-UP Project has the potential to radically change the way large classes are taught at colleges and universities. The social interactions between students and with their teachers appear to be the "active ingredient" that drive the approach work. As more and more instruction is handled virtually via technology, the relationship-building capability of brick-and-mortar institutions becomes even more important. The pedagogical methods and classroom management techniques we design and disseminate are general enough to be used in a wide variety of classes at many different types of college.

Classes is split primarily on "hybrid" and "onsiteable". Essentially these are hands-on activities, simulations, or interacting questions and problems. There are also some hypothesis-driven labs where students have to write detailed reports. This [article](#) is more sophisticated than most, but shows what the best students are capable of doing.) Students sit in three groups of three students at a 9' foot diameter round table. Instructors circulate and work with teams and individuals, engaging them in Socratic-like dialogues. Each table has at least three networked laptops. The setting is very much like a banquet hall, with lively conversations nearly all the time. After every session and discussion, we are adding/improving the SCALE-UP room design and pedagogy. Engineering schools are especially keen about the [course redesign](#), which fit in well with the requirements for ABET accreditation.

Materials developed for the course were incorporated into what became the leading introductory physics textbooks, used by more than 1/2 of all science, math, and engineering students in the country.

Impact

Rigorous evaluations of learning have been conducted in parallel with this curriculum development effort. Besides hundreds of hours of classroom video and audio recordings, we also have conducted numerous interviews and focus groups, conducted many conceptual learning assessments (using nationally recognized instruments) in a pre/post/follow-up protocol, and collected portfolios of student work. We have data comprising nearly 50,000 traditional and SCALE-UP students. Our findings can be summarized as follows:

- Ability to solve problems is **improved**
- Conceptual understanding is **increased**
- Attitudes are **improved**
- Failure rates are drastically **reduced**, especially for women and minorities
- "At risk" students do better in later engineering statics class

Details

A [chapter](#) describing the approach and its underpinnings is available. A shorter [discussion](#) is posted on the PERL website, or you can view an [article](#) describing the project from the proceedings of the Sigma Xi Forum on Improving Undergraduate Education. The Raleigh News & Observer newspaper also has a [discussion](#) of the project. The very successful pilot project was [discussed](#) in the first issue of the Physics Education Research supplement to Am. J. of Physics. See our publication [page](#) for more information.

More than 90 colleges and universities across the US have adopted the SCALE-UP approach to their own institutions. In all cases, the basic ideas remain the same: get the students working together to explore something interesting. That frees the instructor to roam the room, asking questions and steering up debates. Class is abstract, chemistry, math, engineering, and even literature have been taught the way. If you want more information please contact Dr. Robert Beichner.

<http://www.ncsu.edu/PER/scaleup.html>

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UMNews

News Release

U of M dedicates new Science Teaching and Student Services building

Building to serve as new hub for student life, including technology-rich "Lipson's of the Mind" and One Stop Student Services

Contact: Daniel Wilton, University News Service, wilton@umn.edu, 612-625-4333

MINNEAPOLIS (ST PAUL, MN) (UPI)—University of Minnesota faculty and students today dedicated the new Science Teaching and Student Services (STSS) building, located at the gateway to the university's East Bank campus in Minneapolis.

The 115,000-square-foot STSS, which replaces the demolished Science Classroom Building, will be home not only to new, state-of-the-art "active learning" classrooms but also to numerous student services offices, including One Stop Student Services, retention services and career services.

"This really is the kind of education at our Twin Cities campus," said university President Robert Dornhoefer. "We're grateful to the people of Minnesota for making this investment in their University."

The building, which was funded in large part by state bonding funds, has the steepest and a wide view of the West Bank and downtown Minneapolis over the Mississippi River. It has 10 active learning classrooms, which provide for technology-driven and collaborative interaction among students and faculty. There are also five multi-media classrooms and two large lecture halls.

"Active learning classrooms are the classrooms of the future and have proven results in improving educational achievement for students," said university Provost Thomas Sullivan. "There is a critical need for more degrees in science, technology, engineering and mathematics fields to meet expected job growth. This new facility supports our efforts to educate the scientists and engineers who make the difference of tomorrow."

In addition, the STSS is designed to meet or exceed the requirements of Minnesota's stringent LEED sustainable design code and meets LEED Gold certification. Sustainable

You're watching:
Inside Active Learning Classrooms

00:00 | 00:00

<http://mediamill.cla.umn.edu/mediamill/embed/78755>

http://www1.umn.edu/news/news-releases/2010/UR_CONTENT_248261.html

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IfT_hoiuY8w

http://youtu.be/IfT_hoiuY8w

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PBL@UD Institute for Transforming Undergraduate Education
Problem-Based Learning at University of Delaware

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The Motivation to Learn Begins with a Problem

In a problem-based learning (PBL) model, students engage complex, challenging problems and collaboratively work toward their resolution. PBL is about students connecting disciplinary knowledge to real-world problems—the motivation to solve a problem becomes the motivation to learn.

PBL@UD

For more than ten years, the Leaders and Fellows of the Institute for Transforming Undergraduate Education (ITUE) have encouraged the adoption of student-centered and active classroom pedagogies—and in particular—the use of PBL in the undergraduate classroom. On- and off-campus workshops are held for faculty and students to enhance their understanding of PBL.

Recipient of a Hesburgh Certificate of Excellence

The Theodore M. Hesburgh Award was created to acknowledge and reward successful, innovative faculty development programs that enhance undergraduate teaching. ITUE is a recipient of the Hesburgh Certificate of Excellence for its work in implementing problem-based learning in the classroom.

What we offer

PBL Clearinghouse

Find great problems for your

In this peer-reviewed online resource, educators have the opportunity to submit and publish their own problems and articles on problem-based learning.

[Learn more](#)

PBL Training at a lower cost: Attend our January 4-6 Workshop for an Introduction to PBL!

This workshop will demonstrate problem-based learning (PBL) and model ways that PBL can be used effectively in all disciplines. We will begin with a problem, and participants will work in teams to experience first hand what this instructional approach entails. We will then move to the main focus of this program: writing effective problem-based materials. Participants will leave the session with new or revised problems for use in their courses.

[Learn more](#)

<http://www.udel.edu/inst/>

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UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE

Problem-Based Cooperative Learning

Karl A. Smith

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Civil Engineering - University of Minnesota

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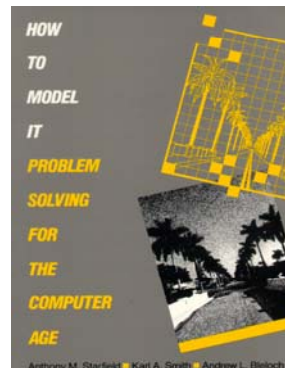
<http://www.ce.umn.edu/~smith>

Estimation Exercise

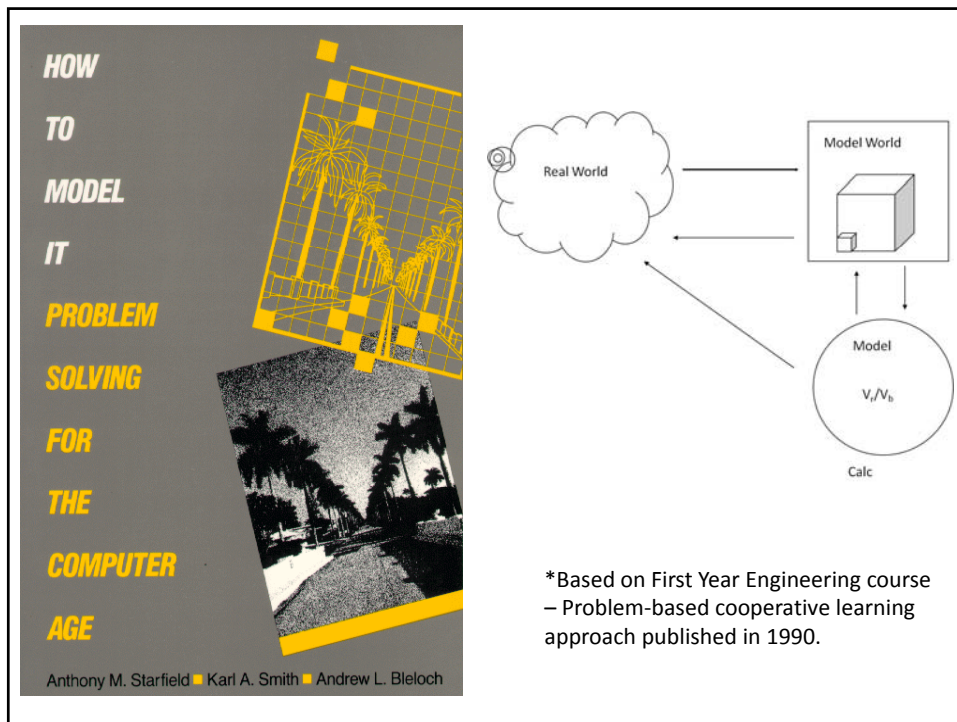
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First Course Design Experience UMN – Institute of Technology

- Thinking Like an Engineer
- Problem Identification
- Problem Formulation
- Problem Representation
- Problem Solving



Problem-Based Learning



Problem Based Cooperative Learning Format

TASK: Solve the problem(s) or Complete the project.

INDIVIDUAL: Estimate answer. Note strategy.

COOPERATIVE: One set of answers from the group, strive for agreement, make sure everyone is able to explain the strategies used to solve each problem.

EXPECTED CRITERIA FOR SUCCESS: Everyone must be able to explain the strategies used to solve each problem.

EVALUATION: Best answer within available resources or constraints.

INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNTABILITY: One member from your group may be randomly chosen to explain (a) the answer and (b) how to solve each problem.

EXPECTED BEHAVIORS: Active participating, checking, encouraging, and elaborating by all members.

INTERGROUP COOPERATION: Whenever it is helpful, check procedures, answers, and strategies with another group.

Cooperative Base Groups

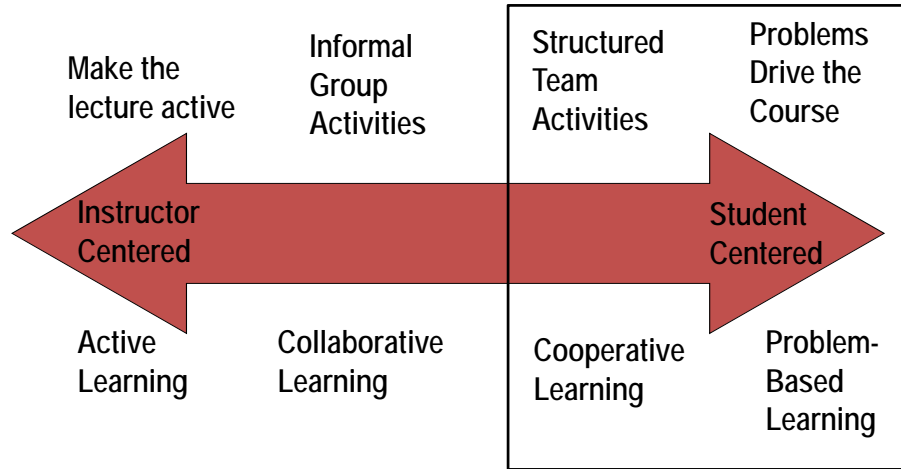
- Are Heterogeneous
- Are Long Term (at least one quarter or semester)
- Are Small (3-5 members)
- Are for support
- May meet at the beginning of each session or may meet between sessions
- Review for quizzes, tests, etc. together
- Share resources, references, etc. for individual projects
- Provide a means for covering for absentees

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Designing and Implementing Cooperative Learning

- Think like a designer
- Ground practice in robust theoretical framework
- Start small, start early and iterate
- Celebrate the successes; problem-solve the failures

The Active Learning Continuum



Prince, M. (2010). NAE FOEE

*My work is situated here – Cooperative Learning & Challenge-Based Learning

Design and Implementation of Cooperative Learning – Resources

- Design Framework – How People Learn (HPL) & Backward Design Process
 - Streveler, R.A., Smith, K.A. and Pilotte, M. 2011. Aligning Course Content, Assessment, and Delivery: Creating a Context for Outcome-Based Education – <http://www.ce.umn.edu/~smith/vlinks.html>
 - Bransford, Vye & Bateman. 2002. Creating High Quality Learning Environments -- <http://www.fairweather.com/book/0355040527.html>
 - Pellegrino – Rethinking and redesigning curriculum, instruction and assessment: What contemporary research and theory suggests. <http://www.naepcommission.org/commissioned.html>
 - Smith, K. A., Douglas, T. C., & Cox, M. 2009. Supportive teaching and learning strategies in STEM education. In R. Baldwin, (Ed.). Improving the climate for undergraduate teaching in STEM fields. [New Directions for Teaching and Learning, 117](#), 19-32. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.
- Content Resources
 - Donald, Janet. 2002. Learning to think: Disciplinary perspectives. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.
 - Middendorf, Joan and Pace, David. 2004. Decoding the Disciplines: A Model for Helping Students Learn Disciplinary Ways of Thinking. [New Directions for Teaching and Learning, 98](#).
- Cooperative Learning - Instructional Format explanation and exercise to model format and to engage workshop participants
 - Cooperative Learning (Johnson, Johnson & Smith)
 - Smith web site – www.ce.umn.edu/~smith
 - Smith (2010) Social nature of learning: From small groups to learning communities. [New Directions for Teaching and Learning, 2010, 123, 11-22 \[NDTL-123-2-Smith-Social-Basis-of-Learning.pdf\]](#)
 - Smith, Sheppard, Johnson & Johnson (2005) Pedagogies of Engagement [[Smith-Pedagogies of Engagement.pdf](#)]
 - Cooperative learning returns to college: What evidence is there that it works? [Change, 1998, 30 \(4\), 26-35. \[CL>ReturnsToCollege.pdf\]](#)
- Other Resources
 - University of Delaware PBL web site – www.udel.edu/pbl
 - PKAL – Pedagogies of Engagement – <http://www.pkal.org/activities/PedagogiesOfEngagementSummit.cfm>
 - Fairweather (2008) Linking Evidence and Promising Practices in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Undergraduate Education. http://www7.nationalacademies.org/p/ocser/awebinar/_commisssioner/apel.pdf