

Mid-term Active Learning Design Project – 20%

The objective of this project is to design a fair mid-term active learning activity that will motivate you to acquire the skills necessary for success in this course. Success in this course is defined as the ability to apply acquired theoretical knowledge to explain real world cases and solve problems. For specific success criteria, please refer to the ministerial objectives noted in the course outline (3 for objective 022R and 3 for objective 022S).

The class will work individually to collect research and in teams to produce the evaluation.

A research entry could take the form of:

- A synopsis of a piece of research on active learning;
- A summary of an article or news piece discussing active learning;
- A summary of a discussion with an individual who has a great deal knowledge regarding active learning or pedagogy (i.e. a professor of education or an active learning researcher).

A research response could take the form of:

- A critical reflection regarding a posted entry;
- An addition of supporting or contrary evidence regarding a posted entry;
- An analytical response combining two or more posted entries.

Part 1: Individual research (10%) – Weeks 2 - 4

In order to collect the most research possible in the shortest period of time, you will work individually in four areas and share your research with the rest of the class using a class forum. The forum can be found at <http://activelearning.dheatherington.ep.profweb.qc.ca>. You will need to create an account and user name. Your user name does not have to include your name, but you must notify me of what your user name is.

Each student must make a minimum of two new entries and 1 response to an existing entry.

You will be awarded up to 5 marks individually for the quality of your contributions. You will be awarded up to 5 marks as a class for the overall quality of the compiled research. Therefore be sure:

- To make quality entries individually
- To monitor the quality of other entries and add to or comment on poor information
- That there are entries about various aspects of active learning (history, design, advantages and disadvantages compared to traditional testing, etc). 50 entries about the rationale for active learning and 0 entries regarding the design of activities constitutes poor overall research.

VERY IMPORTANT: When you make an entry you absolutely **MUST** cite your source. The latest you may post contributions is **February 9**.

Part 2: Evaluation Design (5%) – Weeks 4 – 6

In this section you will be split into four working groups. Each group will use the research compiled on the forum to develop what they feel is an effective mid-term active learning activity that will motivate the class to succeed. Each group must submit a design framework (see attached) on **February 24 at noon**. You will be awarded up to 6 marks as a group for your framework. You will be awarded up to 4 marks individually based on an evaluation of your contributions by the other members of your group.

Part 3: Presentations and Vote (5%) – Week 7

During week 7 (Mar. 8 – Mar. 12) each group will make a short oral presentation (5 – 10 minutes) to present their activity to the class and explain:

1. The details of the activity and the marking criteria.
2. The desired learning outcomes of the activity.
3. The main advantages and disadvantages of the activity over traditional methods.

Following the presentations, the class will vote on which activity to use for the mid-term. There are no extra points for the “winning” group, so do not vote for your group just because it is your group. Each group will be awarded up to 10 points based on their ability to explain points 1, 2, and 3. The entire group does not have to speak, the point is to make the best presentation possible.

The mid-term – Week 10:

The mid-term evaluation will be constructed using whichever activity framework is chosen by the class in the vote. 20% of the 25% for the mid-term evaluation will come from the evaluation itself. The other 5% will be awarded for feedback. Each student must submit feedback on **April 5** to indicate why they feel the mid-term evaluation was more or less effective than evaluations in other classes. This feedback should be typed, double spaced, 12 pt, Times New Roman, and should be roughly 1 page in length.

Marking Scheme:

- 5% - Individual research contributions submitted no later than February 9.
- 5% – Quality and quantity of overall research compiled on the forum.
- 5% – Outline of evaluation method due February 24.
- 5% – Presentation of evaluation method during week 7.

Important Information:

- Please reference all sources using the APA format according to the Bishop’s University APA style guide which is available at:

http://www.ubishops.ca/fileadmin/bishops_documents/library/files/APAguide6thedofficial2010.pdf