If you feel comfortable doing so, in the chat tell us which picture best describes how you are feeling today.
Easy Active Learning
Strategies for All Classes

Kaia Henrickson, Spring Start-up 2023
Agenda / Objectives

• Define active learning
• Explore a few simple active learning strategies
What is Active Learning?

- Students are engaging with content and the learning process beyond listening and taking notes
- Involves all students
- Does not need to be elaborate
- May involve cooperative learning (working with peers)
Why is Active Learning Important?

• Strengthens student understanding
• Can be used to activate prior knowledge or for retrieval practice
• Increases engagement
• Allows for higher level thinking
• Students can teach / learn from each other
• Even a small amount of active learning in a class session makes a big difference in student learning
What is Your Main Teaching Modality?
What Active Learning Strategies Do You Currently Use? (multiple answers allowed)
Strategies
Polling Tools

• Give you immediate feedback about student understanding
• Can involve movement (raise hand, stand, move to a place)
• Polling Tools:
  – Zoom has a built-in polling tool
  – Slido
  – Poll Everywhere
  – Answer Garden
  – Kahoot (competitive)
Two Minutes:

• Think about how you might incorporate polling into your course
• Compose a chat message with your idea(s)
• Wait to hit enter until the timer rings
Think-Pair-Share / Think-Write-Share

• Ensures all students share
• Allows students to help from / learn from each other
• Works well for in-person, hybrid, and synchronous online courses
• Can be used to:
  – Review content from the previous class meeting
  – Help students prepare thoughts for a discussion
  – Check for understanding during / at the end of a lesson
Shared Documents

• Allow students to collaborate in small groups or whole class
• Can be used for anonymous, real-time feedback / responses
• Examples:
  – Google Docs, Slides, Sheets
  – Google Jamboard
  – Padlet
  – Social annotation (Hypothes.is, Perusall)
If you have more time…

• Jigsaw activities
  – Divide a longer text, small groups analyze then teach others
• Fishbowl
  – Small group presents in center, outer circle listens
• Role playing, Case Studies / Scenarios
• Peer review / Peer editing
• Service learning / Community-based projects
• Students teach content
Brainstorm Ideas

In your small group:

• Brainstorm active learning ideas tied to your content / subject area (or useful for your course)

• Add to the group spreadsheet
  – Cells will be outlined with color if someone is actively using them
  – All cells set to wrap text, so write as much as you need
Resources

- Getting Started with Active Learning
- Active Learning While Physically Distancing
- Teaching Techniques Video Library
- Community Building Activities
- The Asynchronous Cookbook: Recipes for Engaged and Active Online Learning
Contact Us:

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