

Ensure Students Are Learning: Faculty Descriptions of Innovative Teaching Practices

Building Presentation Skills Through Project-Based Learning and Peer Review

Innovative Teaching Practice Description:

To develop presentation skills, students learn and teach course content while completing two types of online assignments. The first assignment is a three-to-five minute slide presentation about a specific course topic. Students have the opportunity to volunteer as a presenter for one of several topics that will be covered in class throughout the semester. Students who do not volunteer for a topic are randomly assigned a topic. There is no slide limit, but all the material should take no more than five minutes to cover. Slides should have no more than 10 to 15 words per slide and must include relevant academic sources. The instructor does not provide a specific format or outline for what should be included in the presentation materials, but students are encouraged to include a bulleted summary of the topic using information from the course textbook. All presentation materials are uploaded to a discussion board on Canvas prior to class. Students present the material to the entire class during the next class meeting. After each presentation, the instructor helps the presenter lead a discussion about the topic with the rest of the class.

Students are also given a media assignment in which they create a two-to-three minute video explaining an assigned topic. For this assignment, all students receive the same prompt. For example, students may be asked to explain the communication model. All students record and upload their videos to Canvas. Instead of presenting the material live, students review one another's videos online.

How to Ensure Participation in This Innovative Teaching Practice:

The instructor assigns peer reviewers in Canvas so that each student watches at least one other video. As peer reviewers, students watch other students' videos and provide written feedback for both the actual content and how well it was presented.