Building Virtual Teams: Team-Based Learning Pedagogy on a Distance Education Platform

Brenda L. Janotha, DNP-DCC, ANP-BC Columbia University



Objectives

At the conclusion of this presentation the participants will be able to:

- Recognize the essentials of TBL design
- Summarize a process for adapting distance education courses using TBL pedagogy
- Discuss virtual team building strategies

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What is TBL?

- Learner-centered approach
- Active learning strategy
- Collaborative pedagogy
- Based on 4 principles
- Requires students to selfregulate learning
- www.teambasedlearning.org

WHY TEAM-BASED LEARNING (TBL)?



- Are we engaging graduate students?
- Are we promoting active learning?
- Are we providing opportunities for collaboration?

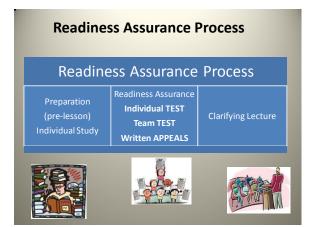


Why is it important to promote active learning using TBL?

- Active engagement of students in the learning process corresponds with higher motivation, deeper processing, and greater content retention
- TBL augments critical thinking, contributes to collaboration, and fosters professional development







Application Activities

- Team application activities require the team to effectively interact and collaborate
- The team application activities should be designed to assess student teams' mastery of subject matter

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- A variety of methods
 - Students are provided a set number of points to distribute as they feel is fair amongst their team members

 - Standardized evaluation forms are developed and used for evaluating peers
 Students are graded on their submissions of formative peer evaluations, rubric provided, must include areas for improvement
- Anonymous process

TEAMS

 Teams are purposely formed and managed by the instructor



Team-building Strategies for TBL

- · Evaluating student accountability
- Peer-evaluation process
- Providing constructive feedback
- Encouraging competition between teams

Team-building/Collaboration with TBL

- Team development is essential to the success of TBL
- Strategies to encourage collaboration:
 - Evaluating student accountability
 - Peer-evaluation process
 - Providing constructive feedback
 - Encouraging competition between teams evaluating student accountability by having students conduct peer assessments

Virtual Teams

- Team members are geographically unrestricted
- Opportunities for:
 - increased collaboration, communication, and ultimately student learning



Distance Education (DE)

- Students require flexibility with schedules
- Most students have multiple time commitments- work, families, schedules
- Maintain asynchronous distance education structure

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Structure of TBL for Distance Education Readings for preparation Preview podcasts Preview principle preview as a Team Appeals Mini-Lecture Application activities: Teams work on Significant problem that requires Specific choice. All teams work on Same problem Simultaneously

Traditional Distance Education

- INDIVIDUAL Student Responsibilities:
 - Preparation
 - Tests/Assessments
 - Assignments
- TEAM Responsibilities:
 - NONE



TBL Distance Education

- INDIVIDUAL student Responsibilities:
 - Preparation
 - Readiness assurance: Individual Tests
 - Peer evaluations
- TEAM Responsibilities:
 - Serve as a Team Leader
 - Readiness assurance: Team Tests
 - Participate in appeals process
 - Collaborate on assignments/ application activities



Adapting Curriculum for TBL Distance Education

- Expert panel
- Backward design
- Essentials of TBL design
- Asynchronous timeline





STAGE 1 Preparatory Phase	STAGE 2 Learning Assurance	STAGE3 Application
Individual study	Individual assessment Team assessment Instructor feedback	Team Assignment

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
DAY 1 of Module 1				Last day for submitting Individual Readiness Assessment		
DAY 8 of Module 1				Last day for submitting Team Readiness Assessment		Last day for submitting Written Appeals
DAY 15 of Module 1						Application Activity DUE LAST DAY of Module 1
Day 1 of Module 2				Last day for submitting Individual Readiness Assessment		
Day 8 of Module 2				Last day for submitting Team Readiness Assessment		Last day for submitting Written Appeals
Day 15 of Module 2						Application Activity DUE LAST DAY of Module 2

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• Team members are geographically unrestricted



Virtual Teams Framework

- Members
- Team Leaders
- Communication
- Trust
- Rewards
- Technology



Virtual Team Building Strategies

- Evaluating student accountability
- Peer-evaluation process
- Providing constructive feedback
- Encouraging competition between teams
- Context
- Technology



Virtual Teams Challenges

- Time
- Trust



Key Points

- · Encourages collaboration
- · Requires active participation
- · Increases accountability
- Improves student outcomes/ performance

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