

Active Learning Activity (ALA) Worksheet

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1. Give 1-2 examples of course objectives

1.1 _____

1.2 _____

2. Active learning strategies in my classroom

I currently use:	I am interested in exploring:

3. Technology-assisted strategies in my classroom

I currently use:	I am interested in exploring:

4. Do you have a plan to implement the ALA approach (or a modified version) in your classroom? If so, give an example of the topics?

5. What outcomes do you plan to measure in order to determine the effectiveness of the ALA approach?

5.1 _____

5.2 _____

Session Objectives

1. Identify various active learning activities (ALAs) that can be used in classroom settings.
2. Develop active learning strategies which are consistent with desired educational outcomes.
3. Develop a plan to implement ALAs for their own classes.
4. Develop assessment strategies to measure the impact of ALAs on students' learning and satisfaction.

Key Points

Bloom's Taxonomy

- Knowledge
- Understanding
- Application
- Analysis
- Synthesis
- Evaluation

At what level does your selected objective target?

Active Learning

- Any instructional method that actively engages students in the learning process.
- Requires students to engage in meaningful activities and to think critically about what they are doing.
- Research found that students learn and retain new information better when they engage in active learning.

Collaborative Learning

- An instructional method where students work together in small teams towards common goals.
- Focuses on how students interactions influence learning outcomes.
- Students are responsible for facilitating successful learning for themselves as well as others.
- Research consistently found that collaboration enhances academic achievements, student attitudes and retention.

Immediate Feedback

- An interactive process that provides learners with insight into their performance.
- Refers to various types of feedback that become immediately accessible to the student as the student engages in the learning process.
- Feedback motivates students and provides information that they can use to correct or improve their learning.
- Research has shown that immediate feedback is more effective than delayed feedback.

Enhancing the Lecture

- An enhanced lecture: a series of short, mini-lectures punctuated by specific active learning activities.
- Active learning activities can range from simple to complex tasks.
- Examples: the pause procedure, short writes, think-pair-share, formative quizzes, and lecture summaries.
- Technology can be used to enhance the lecture.

The Active Learning Activity (ALA) Approach at Auburn University

- The ALA approach is a formalized approach.
- Used to deliver in-class active learning activities (ALA's).
- Utilized in PPDME I and II courses.
- ALA's are integrated into specific class sessions.
- ALA's are worth 5% of student grades.

Implementation of the ALA approach

- Students work in teams of 2-4 to complete each ALA.
- Generally, students are required to analyze a real world scenario and recommend a solution to the problem.
- Students are allowed to use all available resources including class notes, readings, and internet or ask teaching assistants and the instructor.
- The instructor interacts with students, probe for understanding and answer questions.
- A student volunteer presents his/her team's answers to the ALA questions in front of the class.
- Each team submits the completed ALA to the instructor.

Grading

- Students either receive a credit for their participation or do not receive a credit.
- Teaching assistants are responsible for grading these ALAs.
- Time commitment to grading is low.

Evaluation of the ALA Approach

1. Students' satisfaction
 - End-of-semester evaluation
 - Session evaluations
2. Students' attendance
3. Students' performance on the examinations at different cognitive levels.