A Class of Teachers Transforming Learners into Peer-Instructors



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By the end of our time together, learners will have:



Shared experiences and perspectives

Practiced creating a peerinstructor learning activity

Provided real-time peer feedback on peer-instruction

Helped formulate tips and best practices for overcoming barriers

Overview

- What is Peer-Instruction?
- The Need for Peer-Instruction
- Practice
- Generate Best Practices
- Empowered to Create



What is Peer-Instruction



Sound Familiar?

FAS 331 – Modern Families

Details

- Enrollment: 100
- Modality: In-person
- Semester: 15 weeks
- Activities/Assessments
 - Written Papers
 - Exams
 - Group Presentations

FAS 331 – Modern Families

- Details
 - Enrollment: 600
 - Modality: Online
 - Semester: 7.5 weeks
- Activities/Assessments
 - ????



Peer-Instruction

- How does it work?
 - Requires learners to first master content, then present it engagingly to peers
 - Insufficient to simply *prepare* to teach; content mastery and fluency is increased by the actual act of *teaching* (Koh et al., 2018)
 - Often more effective than instructor teaching because they have firsthand experience knowing what is required to learn and master the content

General Standard 5 | Learning Activities and Learner Interaction

- SRS 5.1
 - The learning activities promote the achievement of the stated learning objectives or competencies.
- SRS 5.2
 - Learning activities provide opportunities for interaction that support active learning.
- SRS 5.3
 - The instructor's plan for interacting with learners during the course is clearly stated.
- SRS 5.4
 - The requirements for learner interaction are clearly stated.



Peer-Instruction

• Why it is effective

- Utilizes ever-present and abundant resource: *learners*
- Perpetuates high-order learning on upper levels of *Bloom's Taxonomy*
- Results in long-term content mastery, memory recall, application

Teaching others enhances own content mastery

- Galbraith & Winterbottom (2011)
- Hoogerheide et al. (2016)
- Roscoe & Chi (2008)
- Ross et al. (2015)

The Need for Peer-Teaching





Benefits of Peer-Teaching

• You first!

Benefits of Peer-Teaching

- Learners are required to master the content to teach effectively
- Learners get multiple perspectives and attempts to learn material
- Removes pressure in both directions as your "teacher" is your peer who is learning *with* you
- Provides higher-order learning activities that benefit both the learner-teacher and the peer-learner
- Increases meaning in grades/activities (*anti-busy work*)
- Enhances confidence and capacity of learners as teachers

Practice



Practice

https://bit.ly/QMteach

Select ONE resource

Prepare to teach

- Remember that the goal of teaching isn't to "cover" material
- Prepare to give feedback
 - Candid and constructive feedback will help learners most



Generate Best Practices



Best Practices From Us!

- From what you've just experienced
 - What was most successful?
 - How could you facilitate less successful aspects to be *more* successful?

From what you already know

- What do you know for sure that will help us formulate a list of best practices?
- What do you know for sure that will help us overcome barriers?



Empowered to Create



Create Peer-Instructor Learning Activities

Consider a course you are familiar with

- What existing activity could you transition to become a peerinstructional activity?
- What existing activity could meet the same objectives by transitioning to a peer-instructional activity?
- What learning objectives for this course would be most beneficial to create a peer-instructional activity to meet?

• Use my example!

• How would you transition from multiple group presentations in-person to online peer-instructional activity(ies)?

By the end of our time together, learners will have:



How did we do?

Shared experiences and perspectives

Practiced creating a peerinstructor learning activity

Provided real-time peer feedback on peer-instruction

Helped formulate tips and best practices for overcoming barriers

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