Is active learning key to student engagement?

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Outline of session

11:00 Welcome and introductions
11:05 Interactive discussion and presentation
- What is active learning?
- Tennis debate activity
- Discussion
11:55 Closing comments
12:00 Finish

The engage network is open to staff and students – You are ALL welcome
What is active learning?

“Any instructional method that engages students in the learning process … [it] requires students to do meaningful learning activities and think about what they are doing.”


At the University of Glasgow, we agree that AL seeks to enable learners to:

- Engage more deeply with the course material in the discipline
- Learn more effectively
- Perform better in assessment
- Develop more fully as critical thinkers
Tennis debate

Two teams:
- Team 01: find arguments against active learning
- Team 02: find arguments for active learning

One argument per team, then the other team responds until all arguments are heard

(Detailed instructions here)
Participant reflection

1. How did that activity go for you?
2. What did you learn?
3. Could you use the tennis debate in your own teaching or learning context?
4. What might be the pros and cons of this strategy?
5. Has anyone used any other forms of debate in class?
Active Learning Network

Community of practice for educators, academic developers, learning professionals: https://activelearningnetwork.com/

- Global Active Learning Festival (Spring)
- International Active Learning Conference (Summer)
- CPD sessions (Autumn)
- International buddy scheme
- Opportunity to contribute to collaborative publications
Join the Creativity for learning in HE community!

A hub for like-minded and other-minded pedagogic experimenters and innovators

You are all warmly invited!
https://creativehecommunity.wordpress.com/
https://www.linkedin.com/groups/12889007/

Collaborative Award for Teaching Excellence 2022
- Open access searchable database of learning and teaching strategies
- Get a DOI for your material
- Linked to ORCID and Almetric
- https://ntrepository.com/home/
- Content hosted in Figshare
References and further reading


Next engage event

Thursday, 7th December 2023 16.00-17.00 Online

What role do virtual simulations play in engaging students?

Paul Driver, Director of Simulated Learning, Anglia Ruskin University