

Definitions and Examples of collaborative, cooperative, team-based and problem-based learning

Collaborative Learning

Definition: "in collaborative learning, the focus is on working with each other (but not necessarily interdependently) toward the same goal... toward discovering, understanding, or production of knowledge" (Davidson & Major, 2014, p. 21)

Examples:

Reports or presentations in which tasks are split among group members.

Team-Based Learning

Definition: "TBL shifts the focus of instruction away from the teacher as dispenser of information and instead places the focus on students actively engaging in activities that require them to *use* the concepts to solve problems... *every* aspect of a TBL course is specifically designed to foster the development of self-managed learning teams" (Michaelsen, Davidson, & Major, 2014, p. 58)

Examples:

Flipped classroom model

Cooperative Learning

Definition: "students work and learn together actively in small groups to accomplish a common goal in a mutually helpful manner" (Davidson & Major, 2014, p. 14); this group work can be structured or unstructured

Examples:

Jigsaw activities
Think / Pair / Share
Three-Step Interview

Problem-Based Learning

Definition: "PBL fosters the ability to identify the information needed for particular applications, where and how to seek that information, how to organize that information in a meaningful conceptual framework, and how to communicate that information to others" (Duch, Groh, & Allen, 2001, p. 7); PBL is often interdisciplinary with "real world" applications

Examples:

Case method
Simulated client interaction

References:

- Davidson, N. & Major, C.H. (2014). Boundary crossings: Cooperative learning, collaborative learning, and problem-based learning. *Journal on Excellence in College Teaching*, 25 (3&4), 7-55.
- Duch, B.J., Groh, S.E., & Allen, D.E., eds. (2001). *The power of problem-based learning: A practical 'how to' for teaching undergraduate courses in any discipline.* Sterling, VA: Stylus.
- Michaelsen, L.K., Davidson, N. & Major, C.H. (2014). Team-based learning practices and principles in comparison with cooperative learning and problem-based learning. *Journal on Excellence in College Teaching*, 25 (3&4), 57-84.