**Teaching Large Groups: Maximizing Learning via Student Interaction**

**VCOM – CC Faculty Development Workshop**

**March 24, 2016**

***Goal:*** to understand large group presentations and discuss ways to optimize learning

***Objectives:***

At the end of this workshop, the participant will be able to:

1) Identify challenges of large group teaching and learning

2) List four educational themes to creating effective presentations

3) Select appropriate methods to engage large-groups learners for alignment with learning outcomes

4) Improve personal style when making presentations

Large group teaching is one of the most difficult things we do in education. Factors contributing to this difficulty include, but are not limited to:

* the number of learners
* the varied levels of leaners
* the complexity of materials
* different learning styles

Take a step back and *consider two things* before giving your next presentation:

1. Rather than teach, the goal should be to **create a learning environment**.

2. Keep in mind the principles of curriculum and instructional design.

* Clearly define your learning objectives. This will guide the learning process.

***Apply evidence-based educational themes* to every presentation**

1) Streamline the message

2) Organize and anchor

3) Promote knowledge transfer

4) Create a connection

***Pre-planning:***

How does your lecture fit into the curriculum?

What do the students know of your subject?

How will the course and your lecture be assessed?

What teaching methods are the students accustomed to?

***Preparation (before making slides):***

Needs analysis – what are you going to teach?

Know your audience - who are the learners?

Create learning objectives - these guide and focus your instruction

Choose the right educational strategy

Purpose of the lecture – new knowledge and concepts versus different approaches to a particular problem

Choose your teaching media – what will encourage students to engage, interact and learn?

***Handouts***

Should augment the lecture:

* Outline the organizational framework of the lecture
* Highlight key information to the learner
* Provide links and resources for references/further learning

***Slides: getting started***

Give students a sense of place and direction; context for learning

Learning objectives for the current session

***Encouraging student interaction***

Ask questions

Get students to ask questions

Brainstorm

Buzz groups

Mini-assessments

***Ending your lecture***

Summarize what was learned

Outline steps for further learning

Give resources and/or assignments to promote knowledge transfer

***Suggested timing:***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **50 minute lecture** |
| Introduction | 1 – 2 minutes |
| Goals/Objectives/Outline | 2 – 5 minutes |
| Objective #1 | 8 - 10 minutes |
| Objective #2 | 8 - 10 minutes |
| Break/review | 1 – 3 minutes |
| Objective #3 | 8 - 10 minutes |
| Objective #4 | 8 - 10 minutes |
| Break/review | 1 – 3 minutes |
| Summary/questions/feedback | 5 minutes |

***Evaluating your lecture***

Students’ evaluations/Peer evaluations/Self-evaluations