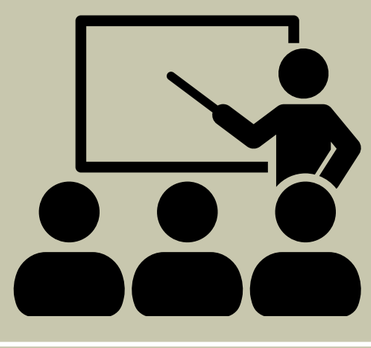
The Flipped Method

A way to increase engagement, participation and retention







What is it?

The flipped method is based on the idea that the traditional lecture style may not be the best use of instructional time. This method gives participants time prior to instruction to engage with the material, allowing more time for collaboration, discussion and instructor-participant interaction.

Why is it important?

This method is an opportunity to increase participants understanding of topic areas. Simultaneously, the time available for instructors to support participants during instructional time is increased.

Instructors may often leave a lecture based training sessions wondering if their participants were not only listening but retaining information. By using the flipped method sessions time can be spent responding to questions, completing activities and supporting learners understanding of important information.



Pros and Cons

These are just some of the benefits and challenges that can be expected from the flipped method.



Benefits

- Increases time for instructor learner interaction
- More opportunities for collaboration amongst participants
- Puts the focus on application of knowledge

Challenges

- Students not engaging with the pre-work
- Planning may be more time intensive for instructors
- Participant motivation to participate in session

What if...

Some of the participants did not engage with the pre-session material:

- Ask participants to respond to a discussion style question before the start of the session
- Remind students that resources can be referenced during in session activities and discussions.
- Open up the session with a brief refresher of the learning objectives

Strategies

1. Standard: Participants watch lectures before class and complete activities or assessments during the session
2. Discussion-Oriented: Instructors assign video lectures as well as supplemental materials and participants discuss the subject matter in class.
3. Think, Pair, Share: participants are assigned supplemental materials pre session. In session they are separated into pairs (or small groups) and return from breakout rooms to share the insights they found.