

Collaborative Learning

In the Virtual Classroom

Collaborative learners work in groups on the same task simultaneously.

- They discover.
- They share information.
- They exchange opinions
- They think over demands.
- They tackle complexities.
- They create.
- They seek understanding, meaning, solutions.

Definition found on UNESCO education site:

<http://www.unesco.org/education/educprog/lwf/doc/portfolio/definitions.htm>

Course: 15th Century European History
Assignment: Role Play



Group #1 =
Columbus



Group #2 =
Natives



Group #3 =
Isabella

A fourth group of students might take the crew's viewpoint

A fifth, the viewpoint of the people in Isabella's court

Or Ferdinand's viewpoint

Or the men who built the ships.

Or the viewpoint of the merchants who stand to benefit from the goods Columbus is expected to bring back.

Or the people of Europe 100 years later and what changes the voyages of Columbus brought about in their lives.

Course: World Literature
Assignment: Networked Learning

US Students:

Introduce a great
American writer
to KSA students



KSA Students:

Introduce a great
Arabian writer
to US students



Course: American Revolutionary War Assignment: Trace the steps



1. Stamp Act
2. Boston Tea Party
3. Thomas Paine writes "Common Sense."
4. Declaration of Independence
5. "The British are coming!"
6. Washington crosses the Delaware.

Each student explores and reports on one step in the history.

PBS quiz about the Revolutionary War:
http://www.pbs.org/ktca/liberty/road_q1_1.html#

Course: Introduction to Surgery
Assignment: Trace the Process

1. Diagnosis
2. Consultation
3. Prep the patient
4. Sterilization
5. Anesthesia
6. Incision
7. Stitches
8. Followup



You can see how collaborative learning takes the load off the instructor.

**Course:
Biography**

**Assignment:
Trace the
Life Story**



Each student explores one major incident in the life of King Abdul Aziz

Course: Louisiana Purchase

Assignment: SWOT Analysis

Strengths:

1: -----

2: -----

Weaknesses:

1: -----

2: -----

Opportunities:

1: -----

2: -----

Threats

1: -----

2: -----

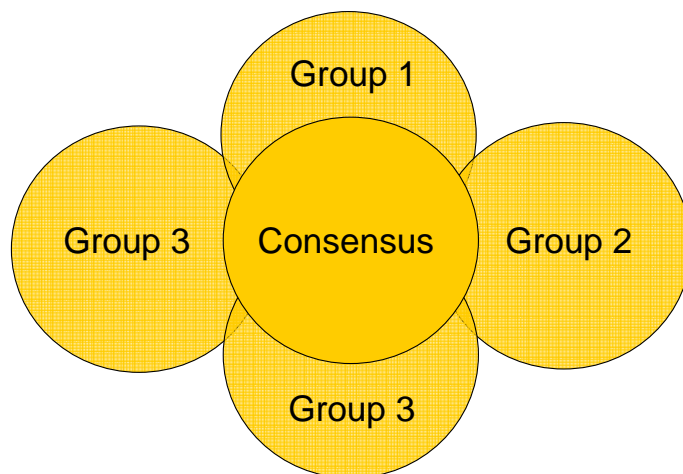


SWOT Analysis = process used in organizational planning to clarify a situation before a decision.

Easily applied to any number of academic subjects.

Students contribute ideas based on their understanding of the subject.

There are no right or wrong answers
in collaborative learning.



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