Making Large Scale Assessed Groupwork Work Well - the Tale of Two Modules

NANO CONFERENCE #7 - ENABLING EMPLOYABILITY

25th October 10.30am-12.20pm

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The Tale Starts with Me!

phd- eng proj mangt

project roles student

module leader

mechanical engineer lecturer

project role researcher

msc-eng proj mangt

member teaching team

Context - 2 Modules

Characteristics	(Module 1)	(Module 2)
	15credits	15credits
	September 2022	January 2023
Context	7037MHRProject Planning and	7039MHR Project Management in
	Budgeting	the Digital Era
Student Numbers	70+	330+
Teaching	1 @ML	1@ ML + 4
Classes	2= SIPM 1 & SIPM2	9= SIPM1 & SIPM2 + JIPM1-JIPM7
		Scale up incremental over 5 weeks
Assessment	CW (15credits)	CW1 (5credits) and CW2
		(10credits)
Summative Assessment 1:	N/A	CW1 (20mins Presentation + 2000
Group Work Component		words report); MLOs 1 - 2
Summative Assessment 2:	CW (individual work- 4000 words	CW2 (Individual Work- 2000 words
Individual work	report); MLOs 1 - 4	report); MLOs 1 - 4
Tracking Progress	Learning Journal (hard or soft)	Padlet (digital/soft)

Module 1- New Module 1st running

Coventry Group- Course Based Approach

Module Design + Module Content + Module Delivery

 ✓ Constructive alignment: self-study guided reading activity + Live session + Academic Support (AS) (active learning) + Assessment & Feedback (AF) (active learning)

But....

- Students enrolling up to week 5
- CW is case study based and some students struggle
- No additional guidance initially provided
- No samples as new module
- Practical focused component- Software for Project Management scheduled in last 2 teaching weeks (weeks 9 and 10)
- New technology introduced in week 6

Student number: 70+

Pass rate: 90%

MEQs: 78%

Engagement level: class participation and quality of CW required improvement

Peer Support: Couldn't be cultivated beyond class activities and poor when students don't engage sufficiently anyway

Formative Feedback: Couldn't track progress

Module Intelligence: Unable to make changes because poor sense of students needs and knowledge gaps

Module 2- New Module 1st running

Coventry Group- Course Based Approach

Module Design + Module Content + Module Delivery

 ✓ Constructive Alignment: Self-study guided reading activity/associated tasks + Live session + Academic Support (active learning) + Assessment & Feedback (active learning)

Changes:

Active learning + **student centred approach**

- ✓ CW1 Brief + CW Extra support + CW Video
- ✓ CW2 Brief + CW Extra support + CW Video
- ✓ Promote multiple communication channels
- ✓ Student support: ASU led sessions on working with case study + APA Citations and Referencing
- ✓ Student support: Education Technologist provide video on how to use Padlet
- ✓ Use of Digital Group Learning Journal Padlet

Padlet How?

Approach to Formative and Summative Assessment-Padlet

- 330+ students needed to be allocated to CW1 groups (self selection + tutor selection)
- Creating CW1 Group Padlet: Create 'perfect Padlet' then replicate for each group
- Each Class Group assigned Padlet (typically 6 groups in each class) seating together in AS and AF hours
- For each class, use root word password convention.
 Easy for lecturer and students to remember
- Group CW1 Content created over 8 weeks. All formative activities uploaded to Padlet. The Padlet is downloaded as PDF and submitted

Support by Design:

- Additional Padlet i.e. use of Class Padlet: Links embedded in Aula and easy to signpost student.
 Password was class name
- CW Padlet: Links embedded in Aula

Focusing on the how

Types of Formative assessment for learning Active learning + Enhanced Feedback practices:

- Flipped learning
- Test
- Research inspired teaching: reading several articles- jigsaw approach, discussions, presentations etc

Module 2- New Module 1st running - Impact

Coventry Group- Course Based Approach

Module Design + Module Content + Module Delivery

Student numbers: 330+; Co-teaching team: 5

Pass rate CW1: 100%

Pass rate CW2: 93%

MEQs: 89%

Formative Feedback: Able to track progress weekly

Peer Support: Building a community. Students even hung out together informally in some groups

Module Intelligence: Better sense of student needs and gaps. More personalised feedback. Got to know students a little better

Making Large Scale Assessed Groupwork Work Well

- in Summary