

Guide to Flipped Course Design

What is this Guide? An introduction to the flipped classroom approach, a pedagogical model that aligns with current educational theories and is supported by academic research. This approach can be utilized for both digital and traditional classroom settings.

How to Use This Guide? Consider this guide when planning or revising your curriculum. For further guidance, reach out to an educational design consultant.

Overview Flipped classrooms invert the traditional education model. Conventionally, students prepare by reading textbooks, listening to in-class lectures, and completing assignments post-lecture. In contrast, a flipped classroom has students review lecture materials before class and spend classroom time engaging in active learning activities. This allows for immediate feedback and hands-on skill development during class hours, directly under instructor guidance. The division of in-class and out-of-class work is thus 'flipped.'

Instructor's Role In a flipped classroom, the instructor transitions from a lecturer to an active facilitator during class time. This is key, as deep learning happens when students actively engage with material. Active learning includes various activities like debates, creation, application, and experimentation, fostering knowledge integration into long-term memory. If students apply new knowledge as homework without guidance, they risk entrenching mistakes. An instructor's real-time intervention in a flipped classroom can redirect students before errors become habitual. This method has been shown to improve learning outcomes significantly.

Flipped Information Delivery To flip your course, provide pre-class content through various asynchronous channels:

- Brief video lectures
- Curated educational videos
- Academic articles
- Relevant podcasts

Keep the content accessible, accommodating various needs, and ensure students are engaged by connecting pre-class materials to in-class activities.

Encouraging Student Preparation Students will engage with preparatory materials if they see value in them. To ensure this:

- Assign only relevant materials.
- Set reasonable expectations for pre-class effort.
- Hold students accountable through knowledge checks, quizzes, and class discussions.

Active Learning in a Flipped Classroom Maximize class time for applying knowledge:

- Combine individual and group activities.
- Intersperse with mini-lectures to clarify concepts.
- Circulate to assist and correct misunderstandings.

Evidence of Effectiveness Research supports the efficacy of active learning in the flipped model. Detailed studies and data on flipped classroom successes are available from educational research organizations.

Flipped Course Examples

Pre-class activities:

- Short video lectures
 - Articles
 - Quizzes on content
 - Discussion assignments
- In-class:
- Q&A sessions
 - Collaborative exercises
 - Brief lectures for clarification
 - Individual and group tasks
 - Summative discussions.