

# Plan for a SoTL Project

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## **Research Question**

What are you curious about?

What would you like to know about strategies that might hinder and/or help students to learn, in your course?

Do you want to know if an activity, assignment, or teaching strategy “works?”

Do you have a question about how to help your students learn a particular skill?

I have a bunch of questions to delve into and I am actively exploring some of them. Currently, I am curious about finding the best practices to foster inclusivity in group works. Coordinating group works has been challenging at times in online courses and I am in constant pursuit of strategies for meaningful engagement to enhance their learning experience.

## **Identify challenges/outcomes related to learning that is related to your question.**

Describe the learning in a way that suggests how you might *measure* it using either qualitative or quantitative methods.

Challenges are usually reflected in the form of group conflicts and lack of collaboration. Outcomes in grade distribution. One method to measure is to gather data from the learners using qualitative methods such as surveys, observation and interviews. This would help elicit the learners' perspectives, attitudes and suggestions regarding group work and collaboration. One challenge would be time constraint.

**Describe the instructional activity, assignment, or teaching strategy that will promote student learning on the outcome you identified.**

SoTL projects might investigate the impact of a *modification* to an existing strategy or assignment. Describe how the new approach differs from the old approach and why this modification might change student learning on this outcome.

New Approach - Based on the analysis of data and literature review, one possible strategy that could promote student learning in this case is offering the learners to choose their

group members and assign the group work in parts. This would give them ample time to gel with the team, distribute the tasks and work collectively.

**Describe the evidence that would persuade an external audience that the new or modified teaching strategy improves student learning on the targeted learning outcome.**

Describe the evidence you would need to collect to answer questions about the impact or value of this teaching strategy. How would you convince others that this approach is better than other approaches? What comparisons should you make? Examine students; skill before and after the assignment? Compare students who complete the learning activity to another group of students – what comparisons would be meaningful?

I can use tools such as surveys and polls to gather post implementation feedback about the new strategy. Additionally, the grades achieved can be used as a tangible evidence as an impact. Sharing this successful strategy with colleagues and PLN backed by before-and-after data, with evidences, along with student feedback provides opportunity for effective dissemination.

**How and where would you publish, present, or disseminate this work?**

Relevant findings and observations could be share among the professional network and conferences .Utilizing online professional platforms , social media like X and professional associations are also tangible option for dissemination of the work.

Adapted from: C. J. Stanny, E. M. El-Sheikh, & H-M. Chung (2009) ***Getting Started with a SoTL Project***

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