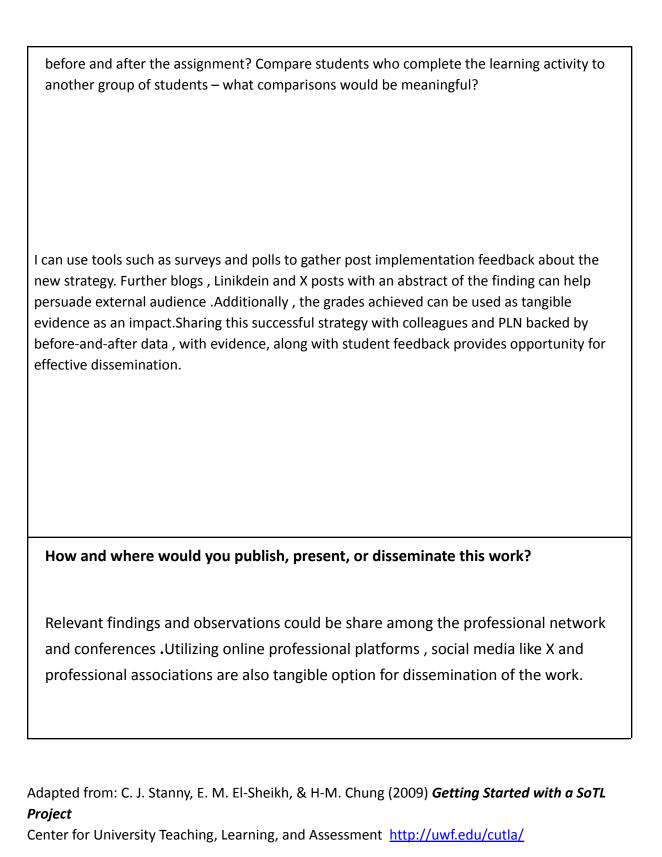# Plan for a SoTL Project

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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 with the current strategy 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. Further blogs , Linikdein and X posts with an abstract of the finding can help persuade external audience .Additionally , the grades achieved can be used as tangible evidence as an impact.Sharing this successful strategy with colleagues and PLN backed by before-and-after data , with evidence, 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.

**Consideration of ethical concerns with this research project**

Ethical considerations are paramount in human subjects research. As the first step, Research Ethics Board  of my institution will be consulted for approval of the proposed study and its methodologies. I will also make sure I am up to date with the ethical guidelines and principles in human research by the Tri-council Policy Statement .(TCPS).These ensures that my research aligns with the standards of ethical conduct , prioritizing the wellbeing of the participants throughout and after the study.

## Reflective response

This module is systematically organized, but this activity seemed to be a bit challenging and ambiguous in the beginning.My key research question was to explore tangible strategies to enhance inclusive group work in online classrooms.I have been delivering this assignment for a few semesters now and tried different strategies . Literature review and UDL frameworks suggest strategies such as community building activities and mastery oriented feedback as effective in creative collaborative team work.For this inquiry,  my plan is to gather information about students perspectives, attitudes and preferences through surveys and polls in the beginning of the semester. Based on the initial analysis, integrate the new strategies into the stream and wait for the impact . Towards the end of the semester, conduct a post assessment survey to gather feedback, in addition to the grades, both of which will provide evidence.
Once found successful/impactful, the findings will be disseminated through publications, blogs on social media like  Linkedin, X and also present the paper at institutional level professional development conferences and workshops. Additionally, my PLN can also be used as a platform to share the success story.