



Workshop on group work policy

A TRADITION OF
INDEPENDENT
THINKING



UCC

University College Cork, Ireland
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh

Expectations and future supports

1: What do I hope to get out of this workshop?

2: Is there a particular topic/issue relating to group work I would like further support on?



Definition

...“group work” involves students working collaboratively on a particular project, assignment or task and where the assessment is based on the output of the groupwork and / or the group work process (i.e. assessment of participation in the group).

*UCC Policy on Designing, Delivering
& Assessing Group Work, April 2017*

- × Unfair marks
- × Free riders
- × Differing standards among group members
- × Parity of opportunity

- ✓ Promotes higher order learning
- ✓ Authentic form of assessment
- ✓ Develop key graduate attributes
- ✓ Central to certain pedagogies



General principles on group work

1: Clear module objectives and learning outcomes communicated effectively to students

2: Clear statement of assessment method(s) communicated effectively to students

3: Clarity around how groups are formed

How will the input of the group members be assessed?

General principles on group work

4: Timely and informative feedback for students

5: Opportunities for students to comment on experience in the group

6: Processes to address any issues/conflicts arising during a group work process



General principles on group work

7: Feedback mechanism on student experience of module

8: Support and collaboration among staff involved in group work activities

9: Due attention to relevant policies, codes of conduct etc.

3 key stages in group work

Group formation

- Group selection and composition
- Group size

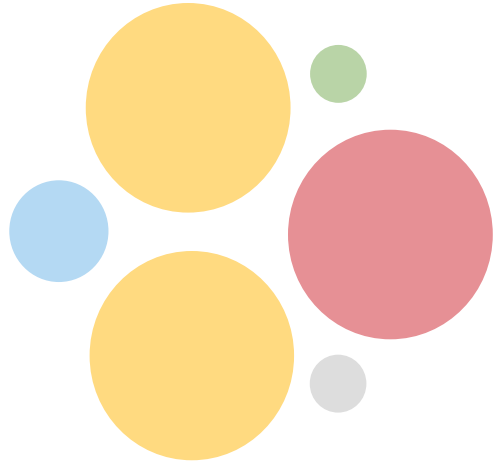
Group management

- Preparation
- Management of emerging issues
- Effective disciplinary procedures

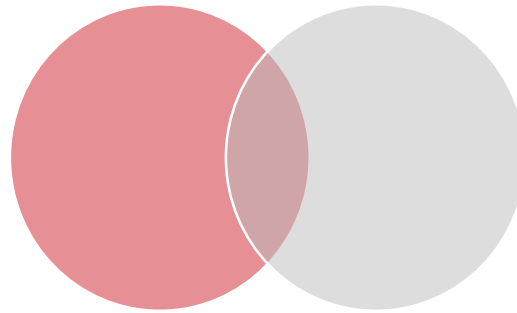
Assessment

- Assess product, process or both
- Assess group, individual or combination of both

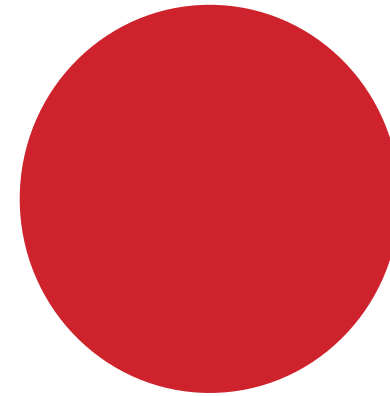
Assessment strategies



Person



Process



Product

Group work



Review UCC's group work checklist

What does it say in relation to:

- Group formation
- Group management
- Assessment
 - individual vs group
 - feedback

Consider the pros and cons in relation to choices you make in developing the group work activity.

Report back to group

Some dates...

DMIS will re-open from 16-27
April

All changes to modules with a
group work component need
to be made during this
window.



References

McCrea, R. et al (2016) *Facilitating group work: a guide to good practice*.
<https://arrow.dit.ie/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1007&context=ltcpgdprp>

ASKe (2009) Getting the most from Groupwork assessment.
<https://www.brookes.ac.uk/WorkArea/DownloadAsset.aspx?id=2147552288>