

Center for Learning and Teaching Excellence Teaching Tips



Make Lectures More Interesting

An anticipatory set encourages students to engage with the material as soon as class begins. It will help them organize their thoughts and give them a sense of what you plan to accomplish during class.

Start with an anticipatory set



1. List your lesson objectives on the black board
2. Give your students a question to answer
3. Outline your lesson on the board before class (remember to summarize at the end of class)
4. Have students bring 2-3 questions to class

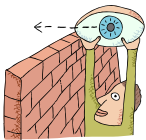
Use techniques to promote student involvement

1. Take the time to listen
2. Give students at least 10 seconds to respond to your question
3. Don't answer all of the questions for your students. Help them think it through with other members of the class.
4. Sit down and have one of your students lead the class
5. Relate the material to their everyday lives
6. Ask more questions



Visualize the course material

Encourage students to think about the material visually and creatively. Some visuals work more effectively in certain courses than others. Experiment with each of them.



1. Graphs
2. Photos
3. Films or video clips
4. Flowcharts - allow you to explore processes
5. Logic trees - allow you to break down general concepts into constituent parts
6. Venn diagrams - allow you to explain the relationship between two concepts
7. Concept diagrams - allow you to connect major concepts to minor concepts and particulars

Promote discussion

1. Prepare formal debates
2. Have students discuss assignments and their purpose
3. Use grading rubrics - Make students participate in establishing criteria by which they will be graded
4. Encourage students to examine what we know and to anticipate what the next step in their learning might be
5. Present a problem and have students break it down on the board
6. Set goals with students.



For other ideas, visit these resources:

<http://honolulu.hawaii.edu/intranet/committees/FacDevCom/guidebk/teachtip/adults-3.htm>

<http://www.oic.id.ucsb.edu/TA/tips/part.html>