

Maximizing Student Learning When Lecturing



Lecture is an effective mode for learning, especially for novice learners. For instructors who choose to lecture, consider the following reminders:



Use Pre-work to Prepare Students

- Assign pre-work that will be used/built upon during the session
- Provide prep-level guidance (e.g., reference; mastery, etc.) to outline student preparation expectations
- Assign an action related to pre-work to ensure student participation (answer a question, make a list, etc.)



Create outcome-based, simply stated, and limited in number Learning Objectives.



Use Multimedia Effectively

- ALL students are visual learners BUT use only necessary images
- Label images that aren't self-explanatory
- Taking notes on slides with a light background and dark text for good contrast



Have Students Apply Knowledge by

- constructing generalizations
- thinking of personal examples
- responding to text on personal levels
- generating an explanation for why an explicitly stated fact or concept is true



Activate Prior Knowledge (to increase accurate inferences)

- Ask students - What do you remember? (fill in the gaps from notes or recall)
- Use quick quizzes and/or polls
- Link activities to pre-work



Break up Lecture every 15 min

- Give students a chance to apply what they are learning
- Capitalize on natural attention span
- Reinforce Learning Objectives

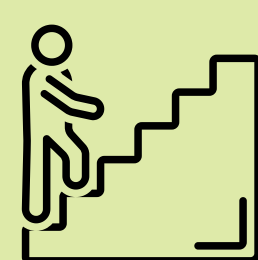


Provide Opportunities for Formative Assessment

- One Minute Papers
- Turn and Talk or Think Pair Share
- Compare Notes
- Written Summaries
- Shout Outs
- Polling
- Quizzes

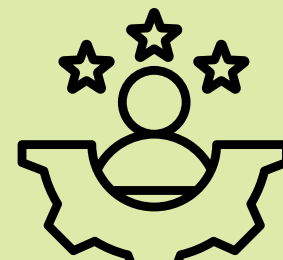


Engage learners appropriately with strategies targeted to the right level, e.g. novice vs. expert.



Novices

- focus on details instead of the big picture
- need help attending to important points



Experts

- make more inferences
- recognize patterns
- strategize across contexts



Capture Attention & Emphasize Important Points

- Summarize/identify key points (solicit from students)
- Learners understand why content is important via Interesting Content/Activities, Compelling Statistics, Voice modulation, Gestures, Emotions, and Relevant Examples/Stories

