



UNSW
SYDNEY

Active Learning Initiative:

How to 'activate' your virtual classroom
in Blackboard Collaborate
and support resources for teaching an
Active Learning course

Tuesday 26 May 3.00 – 4.00pm



Agenda



- 1. What is the Active Learning Initiative?**
- 2. How to make your virtual class 'active' using Blackboard Collaborate**
- 3. Activity: Breakout Groups in Blackboard Collaborate**
- 4. Active Learning Tools and Resources: The Active Learning Guide**
- 5. Q & A Session**

Housekeeping



Ensure your microphone and camera are working

Please mute your microphones during this session, only unmute when asking a question



We will leave time for a verbal Q&A at the end of the presentation, please feel free to ask questions at this time by raising your hand and waiting for your turn. You can also ask questions via text through the Chat function which appears on the right hand side of your Blackboard Collaborate session browser by typing in your question. We will endeavour to answer written questions during the Q & A Session



This session will be recorded any content, comments, questions will be captured

The slides and resources presented will be made available to you after the session has finished

What is the Active Learning Initiative?



- The Active Learning Initiative was established to address some of the challenges faced by academics in the use and adoption of active learning spaces available on UNSW's Kensington campus. These include:
 - Awareness about the types of space available and how they can be accessed
 - Support with the effective use of the technology within these spaces
 - Lack of awareness on latest trends in teaching and learning and exemplars from within UNSW on effective active learning techniques in the classroom
 - Guides, examples, information, evidence and academic evaluations on how these spaces are improving learning outcomes, student satisfaction and the Scientia Educational experience
- The Active Learning Initiative works with academics to support the adoption and practice of an active learning pedagogy by forming links and leveraging from other initiatives within the UNSW community like summative peer review, educational-focused positions, and academic development
- Topic 1 of the Active Learning Guide - 'What is Active Learning' provides a short introduction to the pedagogy of Active Learning
- Further resources and references to 'What is Active Learning' can be found on the Learning Environments website:

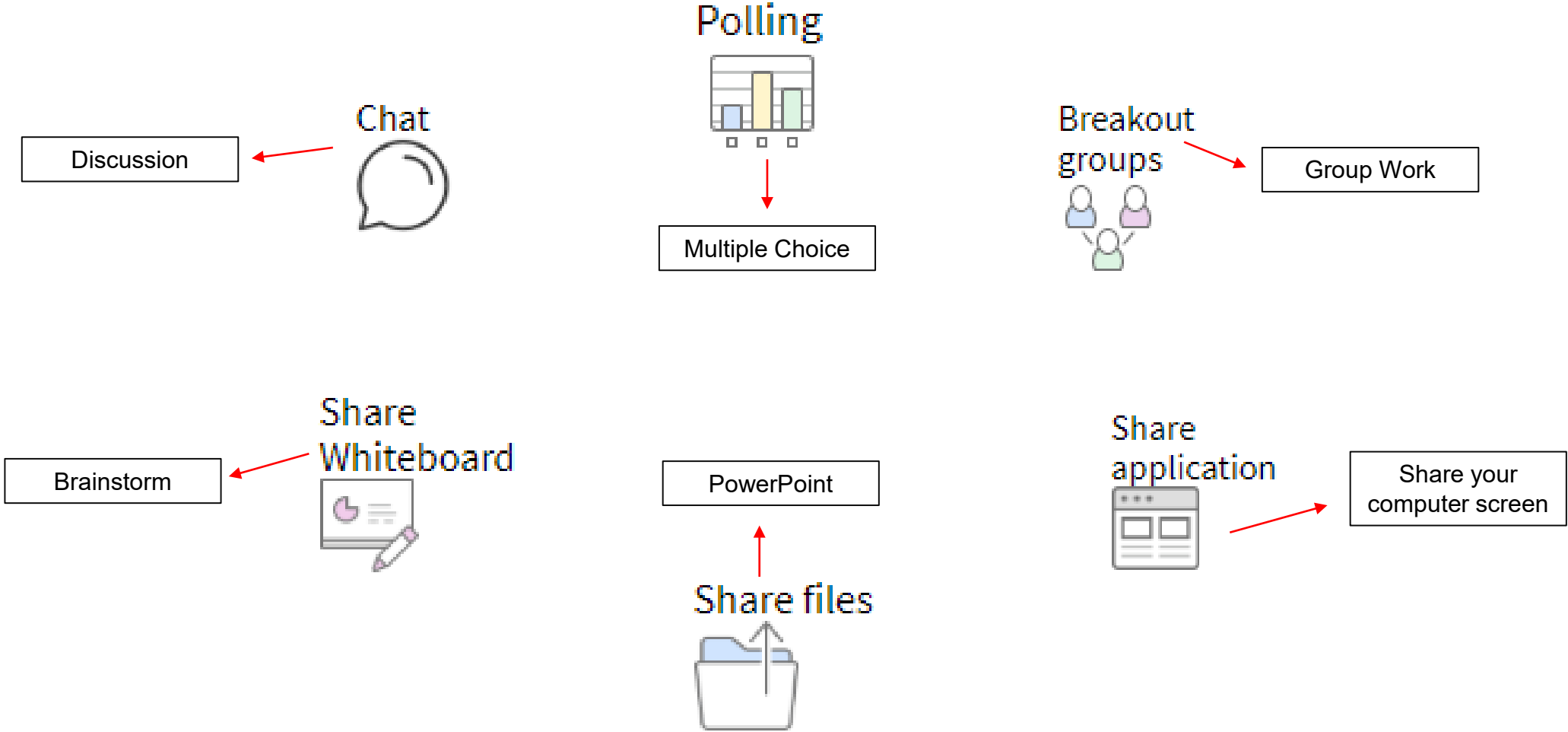
<https://www.learningenvironments.unsw.edu.au/resources/active-learning>

How to make your virtual class 'active' using Blackboard Collaborate

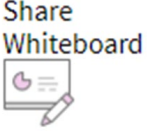




How to make your virtual class active




Blackboard Collaborate Ultra tools available to help make your virtual class active



Blackboard Collaborate Ultra Tools

Tool	Purpose
 <p>Share Whiteboard</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Present real time information as you would writing on a whiteboard• Students can contribute by using the text tool and write on a blank whiteboard• Can be used in the same way you use a Document Camera• Great for:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Brainstorming• Problem solving• Group discussion
 <p>Polling</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Choice of Multiple Choice or Yes/No Answers• Responses are anonymous• Great for:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Helping students think about their answer to a question• Group discussion and problem solving• Assist student learning of ideas and concepts being presented
 <p>Chat</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chats can occur between you and your students as well as between the students themselves via text• You can use the chat menu to select chat groups you wish to communicate with• Great for:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 'Turn and Talk' discussion• 'Think Pair Share' activities• Parallel discussions

Blackboard Collaborate Ultra Tools

Tool	Purpose
 <p>Breakout groups</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• You can start and run breakout groups encouraging your students to participate in group discussion or activities separate from the main room• Students in the group can chat, share files, collaborate on the whiteboard and video call privately from the main group• Great for:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Brainstorming• Problem solving• Group work• Note: Breakout group interactions aren't captured in recordings and content shared is not available when breakout groups end• Content shown in the main room is able to be shared across the breakout groups
 <p>Share files</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• You or your students can share a blank whiteboard, an application, PDFs, PowerPoint presentations, and images in GIF, JPEG and PNG formats• Great for:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sharing additional content• Virtual 'Gallery Walk'
 <p>Share application</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• You or your students can share your own desktop to showcase websites and links, animations, multimedia etc, applications and files including PDFs, PowerPoint presentations• Great for:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sharing additional content• Discussion case for Group activities• Tip: when showcasing websites, links, multimedia content, open up tabs in your web browser before you start your virtual class

Activity
Breakout Groups
in BlackBoard Collaborate



Activity Questions

1. What is your experience in teaching with an Active Learning mindset?

- Feel free to share any knowledge or experiences which you have found that work/don't work in the classes you teach/have taught

2. What are some of the ways in which you integrate Active Learning into your current planning for your course or class?

- Do you use any Active Learning resources to help you plan or when you teach?
- Feel free to share any tips or pointers with the group



3. How do will plan in future for your course or class when we return to face to face teaching?

- Will you continue to integrate Active Learning?
- Will you integrate elements of online teaching which promote student engagement with physical face to face teaching?
- What Active Learning resources would you like to see developed that would support you with your teaching?

Activity Instructions

- 1. You will be assigned to Breakout Groups and asked to nominate 1 person as your scribe. Please choose a name for your group (this is for presentation purposes at the end of the activity)**
- 2. Discuss and draft at least 3 or 4 responses (overall) for all questions using the points underneath the questions as a guide for your responses**
- 3. Collate your responses as a group, each nominated scribe will present your group's responses on the Whiteboard in the Main Room at the end of the activity to the rest of the workshop attendees. Each scribe will have a turn to present**
- 4. You have 10 mins to complete this activity (excluding presentation time)**



Teaching large scale classes in Blackboard Collaborate

- Blackboard Collaborate has updated its features to include the ability to teach large cohort size classes for 250 – 500 students
- Lecturers can now tick the 'Large Scale session (250+)' checkbox within the 'Session Settings' when creating/editing a session to enable large session mode however there are some limitations in order to help manage the increased number of attendees:
 - Session will be in a Webinar form
 - The session must not be longer than 24 hours
 - Ordinary Participants cannot use their microphone, camera or chat
 - Breakout groups cannot be used
 - Guest access URLs must be assigned the 'Participant' role



Tips to start your virtual active class



Start Small – think about what activities you would like to hold in your virtual class and plan. As your experience and confidence increases in teaching remotely you can incorporate more activities using a combination of different tools



Help your students understand the tools you are using to run these activities



Establish the etiquette of how students can ask questions or communicate during class and manage their expectations as to how and when you will respond i.e. using 'hand raise' tool



Ensure your microphone and camera are working before the start of your virtual class
Ask your students to mute their microphones before the start of your virtual class



Consider drafting a 'run sheet' which outlines the order of the material you will teach and the activities you will run



If recording your virtual classes, be sure to communicate this to your students at the beginning of each class letting them know that any questions, comments, material shared will be captured

ETS Support

The ETS team are here to assist and support you at any time. You can:



- Join a Teaching Remotely Webinar
- Book a Virtual Consultation (One on One)



- Book a Virtual Drop-In Session
- Ask questions on the A.I.D.E Chatbot

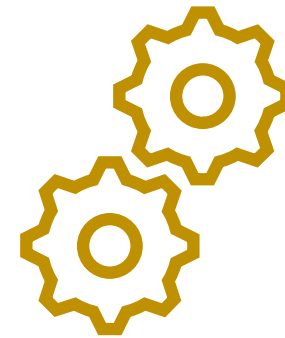


- Explore more digital resources on the Teaching Remotely Sharepoint site
<https://unsw.sharepoint.com/sites/teach-remotely>

For more information please visit 'ETS Contact Us' on

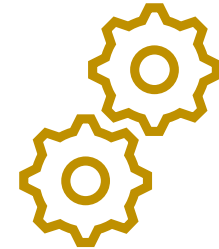
<https://unsw.sharepoint.com/sites/teach-remotely/SitePages/ETS-Support-for-Teaching-Remotely.aspx>

Active Learning Tools and Resources



Active Learning Tools and Resources

- A number of resources have been developed through the Active Learning Initiative to support those who are teaching with an active learning mindset or for those who are thinking about doing so. These include:
 - **Active Learning Guide**
 - **Active Learning Reference and Research Resource (separate supplementary resource to the Active Learning Guide)**
- Video resources showcasing:
 - Members of the UNSW teaching community and their active learning classes
<https://www.learningenvironments.unsw.edu.au/resources/teaching-resources>
 - Examples of Classroom Activities (more coming soon)
https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLHSIfioizVW0f_vvJBIUpWuxycVhrRCdT
- 360 deg interactive tours of five active learning spaces (more currently in development)
- Guide on using Lecture Recordings + as an Active Learning tool
- Furniture Layout ideas for active learning spaces
- Active Learning Framework for Large Cohort Sizes (coming soon)
- Let's Meet: Active Learning Information sessions (more to come)
- Planning continues for more resources, for more information please visit
www.learningenvironments.unsw.edu.au/resources



Active Learning Guide



Provides practical advice and guidance for those teaching or wishing to teach an active learning course

5 Topics:

1. What is active learning?
2. Before starting to teach, I should....
3. Active learning ideas and solutions
4. Audiovisual resources
5. Where can my students learn?

The Active Learning Reference and Research Resource is a supplementary booklet to the Active Learning Guide providing further references and resources

www.learningenvironments.unsw.edu.au/resources/active-learning

Physical copies will be available in Active Learning Spaces across the Kensington campus
Digital copies (containing interactive links) available on the Learning Environments website



Learning Environments Support

Learning Environments are here to assist and support you at any time. You can:



- Email learningenvironments@unsw.com.au



- Submit feedback form on www.learningenvironments.com.au/contact-us



- Explore more about teaching spaces and resources on www.learningenvironments.com.au

Q & A Session





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