Staying Connected: A toolkit to support students’ groupwork

Maxine Swingler & Gayle Pringle-Barnes
(College of Social Sciences)

Project TEAM: Maxine Swingler, Lara Wehbe, Gayle Pringle-Barnes, Heather Cleland-Woods, Noor Sabha, Valentine Conlan, Ellie Buglas, George Fournarakis
What we will cover today

- Common issues in group work
- About the staying connected toolkit
- Activities to engage students in the resources
- Group roles
- Planning group meetings

If you have questions just ask
Challenges in group work

• What aspects of group work do you find most challenging?
• What aspects of supervising student group work do you find most challenging?
Group work

Scheduling, communication, participation

Supporting & assessing

Transition to online group work

Staying Connected: a Toolkit for Effective Groupwork

1. **Work in partnership with students to evaluate current group work practices and resources** (Cameron & Pringle-Barnes, 2019)

2. **Co-create** recommendations on what is working and gaps in provision

3. **Collaborate** effectively in an online and blended environment

- **Student led** development of resources that support the:
  - **Process**: e.g., reflection, communication, problem solving.
  - **Product**: contributions to assessed group work
  - **Delivery** to students and staff across subject disciplines
Analysis & Recommendations

Organising Tasks, Roles & Goals
- Process rather than product (Reid & Garson, 2016)

Participation & Reflective process
- Fear of unequal contributions (Chang & Brickman, 2018)

Communication & Collaboration
- Diversity in groupwork (Mittelmeir, 2018)
Staying connected group work toolkit
enrolment key: groupwork
How are Students using the Resources?

- Getting started/group organisation
- Addressing Issues/Collaboration
- Reflection and using online tools

Total views since August 2022

Sways
Checklists
Videos
Infographics

Total views - since August 2022
Student Feedback: Questionnaire

- Group roles & contributions
- Communication
- Reflection & learning
- Organisation
- Applying what I've learned

Mean score
Qualitative Evaluation

The actioning tasks and resources in the "Getting Started" section was helpful because I could see literal examples of the ways I can navigate and manage group work.”

“From reflection I have learnt what works well and what doesn’t, allowing me to bring it forward to a new group project.”

“Ice breakers for getting to know each other in the first place.”

“The cultural section ... stopped me from taking things too personally.”

“We used the video on team roles to effectively delegate different aspects of group work at the start of the course.”

“....a slightly 'fast-tracked' version or a pointer towards the bits they will find essential.”

“......more reminders that these resources exist as I read them at the start and then completely forgot about them!”
Activity: Group roles & organisation

- Identify key tips *your* students could employ to:
  - Identify a suitable meeting time
  - Create and share an agenda
  - Take and share minutes of the meeting
  - Allocate group roles
- Share on menti.com CODE 85 64 02 3
- **Resources**
  - [How to plan and structure a meeting](#)
  - [Templates for online groupwork](#)

enrolment key: groupwork
Using the resources

- Questions? Use the Mente
- Share the Moodle and sways – anyone can enrol with the enrolment key (groupwork)
- You can duplicate the sways and edit for your own teaching
  - Cite original authors and CC licence
- We would love to hear about how you and your students use the resources.
  - Maxine.swingler@glasgow.ac.uk
  - gayle.prising@glasgow.ac.uk

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