



EXPEDITIONARY LEARNING

Flexible Grouping Patterns for Differentiation

Homogeneous/Ability/Cluster Grouping

- Groups of students of similar abilities, readiness, learning style or interest.
- Based on some type of pre-assessment such as prior school performance, teacher observation, or standardized test scores.
- Use for remediation, acceleration and enrichment.
- Can be used in multi-age classes.
- Even in a theoretically homogeneous class, such as an AP class, there are differing ability levels and sub-grouping may be needed.
- Gifted students need time to work together.

Heterogeneous Grouping

- Groups of students of differing abilities, levels or interests.
- Use to help students understand different points of view.
- Works best when reading level or math proficiency is not involved.
- Good for group projects promoting creativity.
- Teaches skills in delegation, leadership and sharing.
- Those who have learned the material can mentor those who have not. (Use sparingly!)

Individualized Instruction/Independent Study

- Facilitates the management of many achievement levels.
- Self-paced learning at each student's performance level.
- Good for exploring each student's interest areas.
- Teaches independent learning, organizational skills, time management and the development of individual responsibility.
- Must be monitored and appropriately evaluated.

Whole Class Instruction

- Efficient and effective when presenting new content to all.
- Works well with many types of AV presentations.
- Use for initial instruction and some enrichment activities.
- Needed when doing a highly motivational activity that should include all students.
- Use for guest speakers and also for your favorite lecture topics.
- Great for classroom celebrations.

Pairs/Partners

- Can be based on ability, skill or interest.
- Works well with both homogeneous and heterogeneous pairs.
- Assures a student is not going to get "lost" in the group setting.
- More focused learning than in a larger grouping.
- Works well when two gifted students have the same passion area.