

ACTIVE LEARNING AND ONLINE TEACHING

- What is active learning? Active learning includes teaching methods and strategies that involve meaningful student participation and engagement with the material during class time.
- How does it change online? The online environment challenges instructors to adapt active learning strategies because interactions between faculty and students as well as between students are different than in a face-to-face course. The engagement that defines active learning takes on different forms in an online environment.

THREE COMPONENTS FOR ACTIVE LEARNING

	Passive Learning	Active Learning (F2F)	Active Learning (Online)
Getting ideas and information	Lecture from original sources	Read original sources	Annotate original sources using an app
Experiencing: doing and observing	Observing problem solving	Solve problems	Solve problems in steps and explain rationale in a wiki
Reflecting	Whole class discussion	Keep a journal	Maintain a blog over the course of the class with feedback from classmates

(Compiled from L. Dee Fink, *Creating Significant Learning Experiences* as explained at [Active Learning in an Online Course](#), Office of Distance Education and eLearning Resource Center, Ohio State University and [Learning Activities and Active Learning Online](#), IU Teaching Online, UC Davis)

ACTIVE LEARNING IN SPACES

Rather than a physical location, “space” is a principle about how student learning happens.

	Passive Learning	Active Learning (F2F)	Active Learning (Online)
Individual space: students learning key concepts primarily by themselves	Students complete assigned reading	Students complete assigned reading and write a one-minute paper	Students complete assigned reading and post one-minute paper in forum
Group space: students engaging with each other and the instructor about more complex situations or applications?	Students hear a lecture on a case study	Students discuss a case study and collaboratively compose a proposal for action	Students discuss a case study within a dedicated small-group online space and create a collaboratively composed document using multimedia

(Compiled from Robert Talbert, *Flipped Learning: A Guide for Higher Education Faculty* (2017))

Whether face-to-face or online, the goal remains the same: to enhance learning by encouraging students to engage in analysis or apply basic information to more complex questions. You can engage students online just as effectively as you do in your face-to-face class!