CHALLENGES AND REWARDS OF TEAM TEACHING

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Learning Resources

Bucks County Community College
How is team teaching defined?

• two or more instructors
• delivery of meaningful instruction
• diverse group of students
• common setting=learning environment

Before implementation of team teaching:

- Support of College Administration
- Training (time investment for faculty)
- INTG (Integration of Knowledge Institute):
  - Problem solving
  - Communication exercises
  - Support for interdisciplinary culture
Benefits for faculty:

• Developing new teaching approaches and methods
• Overcoming academic isolation
• Opportunity for intellectual growth
• Opportunity to discuss issues relating to students with team members
Team will be successful when:

• Members of the team think alike

• Share commitment to team teaching

• Have ongoing communication

• Set common grading standards and assessments

• Meet often to discuss plan of action
Team will be successful when:

- Have interest in connecting the course to real life
- Support learner centered interdisciplinary teaching strategies
- Encourage students to acquire knowledge via
  - Active projects
  - Presentations-based learning
  - Participatory learning
Benefits for the student

- Exposure to the different views and perspectives of the multiple faculty members teaching the course
- Variety of teaching styles helps to accommodate a variety of learning styles and needs
- Interdisciplinary collaboration will help students become interdisciplinary thinkers
Potential disadvantages for the student

- Confusion
- Frustration because of multiple instructors
- Unwillingness to try new learning techniques: small group projects
- Unwillingness to try new technology
Questions