

ON TEACHING LUNCH SEMINAR

Teaching with Performance Tasks

Thursday, March 1, 12:30-1:30pm
Badlands Room, Memorial Union

Last semester thirty-three faculty members attended the CLA (Collegiate Learning Assessment) in the Classroom Academy. The CLA academy focuses on teaching with “performance tasks” – an active learning technique that helps students at all levels develop skills in analysis, problem solving, and writing within the context of a specific course. Tasks leverage learning by asking students to tackle authentic challenges in intellectually engaging contexts. Students address these challenges by applying critical thinking skills and content knowledge, while acquiring additional information as necessary to resolve the problem.

Academy participants worked toward developing a specific task to incorporate directly into their classes, and this spring a number of academy attendees are utilizing the performance tasks they developed. In this On Teaching session we will talk about how that has been working out, gaging the effectiveness of the tasks, the assessment they allow of student learning and if faculty find the approach beneficial. You’ll get to hear first hand from the people developing and implementing this pedagogical tool what the pros and cons are both in terms of teacher effort and student learning.

If you are interested in hearing how performance tasks have worked for UND faculty in UND classes, you’ll want to come. Please register **by Tuesday, February 28 at noon** to attend and reserve a lunch. Visit the Office of Instructional Development online (www.oid.und.edu) to register. For more information, contact Jana Lagro at 7-4998 or jana.lagro@email.und.edu

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