



Survey of collaborative learning experiences

The following questions ask about your experiences of collaborative learning activities - which may be referred to as group work in your course - at university. The questionnaire is designed to gather information from a range of students in a variety of courses. Responses will help us understand how students perceive this style of learning, and what we might be able to do to improve students' experiences in this area. If you have been involved in more than one group, please just focus on one experience in answering the following.

1. How long was the group operating?

- whole year
- one semester
- one assignment only

2. Was the group

- organised by lecturer / tutor?
- self-selecting?
- organised on the basis of assignment choice?
- other?

Please elaborate.

3. Considering your experience of working in a group, what, if any, were
(a) the academic benefits?

(b) the social benefits?

4. What 'rules' appeared to prevail in the group?

5. Were these rules negotiated – or did they arise spontaneously with given situations?

6. How were 'roles' assigned in relation to the group activity? Did group members have equal 'status'?

7. What worked well? What experiences were most helpful in planning and completing the group task?

8. What didn't work? Did any particular incident or situation help or hinder your group's functioning?

9. What, if any, 'preparation' did you have for group work? What role do you think academic staff could/should play in preparing students for collaborative learning?

10. How did the group deal with problems (and what were the problems?) and/or problem members?

11. Do you feel that you learnt more as part of a group than you would have working on the same assignment/project individually? Yes

No

Please elaborate.

12. Is there anything you would change about your own behaviour or approach in future collaborative learning situations? Yes

No

Please elaborate:

Thank you for taking the time to answer these questions. Finally, please provide some information about yourself:

Male

Female

Under 21

21 –30

31 – 45

Over 45

Your program of study:

Bachelor of _____

Year level: _____

If you would be willing to participate in an interview or group discussion about your experience of collaborative learning, please write your contact details below.

Name:.....

Telephone No:.....

email:.....

Please return the questionnaire in the envelope provided. Thank you.

This questionnaire, developed by Ann Noble in 2000, is provided as a supplementary document to: The University of Adelaide (2000). *Leap into...Collaborative Learning*. Centre for Learning and Professional Development. Available from <http://www.adelaide.edu.au/clpd/resources/leap/>.