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Increasing Student Engagement: Case-based Teaching and Learning

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Increasing Student Engagement: Case-based Teaching and Learning

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Teaching Practice & Need it Addresses

Case-based learning (CBL) is an active learning approach using hypothetical or real life problems that help learners develop clinical judgment and problem-solving skills through discussion of different viewpoints or assumptions, exploring alternate decisions and weighing consequences (Bastable, 2023; Young & Paterson, 2007).

CBL helps make connections that transfer theoretical knowledge to practical application (Billings & Halstead, 2020).

CBL can be used in multiple settings and disciplines to bring scenarios to life for learners

- Classroom: learners working in groups allows for various understanding and application of the material which also improves communication
- Clinical environment and simulation experiences: increase clinical decision making abilities, improves clinical application of material, and enhances adaptation of complex ideas to real life situations



How Others Can Adopt This Practice

UNLV instructors can adopt the active learning strategy of case-based learning (CBL) by determining which type of CBL activities best accomplish the desired learning objectives and outcomes.

Instructors must remember when using CBL activities that each class is different and adaptation to the needs of the learner, when using this teaching style, is important.

CBL can also be presented in several different ways, including an unfolding case study.

- Unfolding case studies “unfold” over time supporting the learner's ability to build off of previous knowledge.

Oftentimes, the instructor can make adjustments to the activity to improve the overall function of the learning.

Resources & Where to Find Them

Resources for CBL use can be found in the literature, books on active or student-centered learning, and websites. These resources may provide best practices, guidance on design and implementation or may demonstrate a step-by-step approach to CBL creation. Additionally, the faculty listed on this poster can provide guidance on how to create a case based scenario.



Evidence it Benefits Students

Active learning strategies, such as CBL have many benefits for the learner and are encouraged.

These benefits include:

- Increased interest and attentiveness in learning
- Increased retention and deeper understanding of material
- Increased problem solving skills
- Enhanced teamwork (Billings & Halstead, 2020).
- CBL has been shown to increase student satisfaction and improve long term application of the information (Bastable, 2023).

References

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