### Active Learning & Innovation

Leveraging Research, Not Rhetoric, in Pursuit of Deep and Flexible Learning







Peter E. Doolittle
Assistant Provost of Teaching and Learning
Executive Director, Center for Instructional Development and Educational Research
Professor, Educational Psychology, Department of Learning Sciences & Technology
Virginia Tech • Blacksburg • Virginia

### Overview

- Introduction
- · What is Active Learning
- Deep & Flexible Knowledge
- Active Learning & Assessment
- Innovation
- Conclusion



### Active Learning is a Change in Perspective

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Weq\_sHxghcg

# **Active Learning**

Why active learning? & What is active learning?

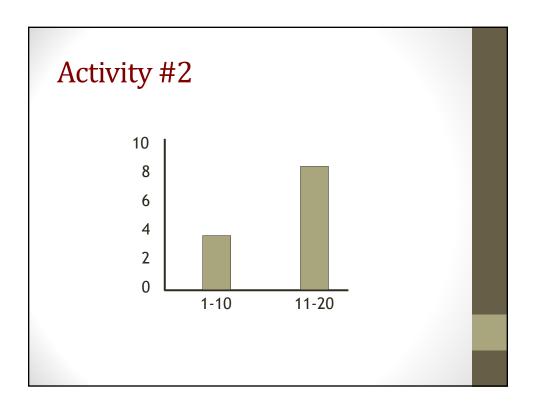


### **Active Learning**

- Barr, R., & Tagg, J. (1995). From teaching to learning: A new paradigm for undergraduate education. Change (Nov/Dec), 13-25.
- Teacher-centered instruction
- Student-centered instruction
- Learner-centered instruction
- Learning-centered instruction
- For the things we must learn in order to do them, we learn by doing them. -- Aristotle

Welcome to the deep end of the pool...

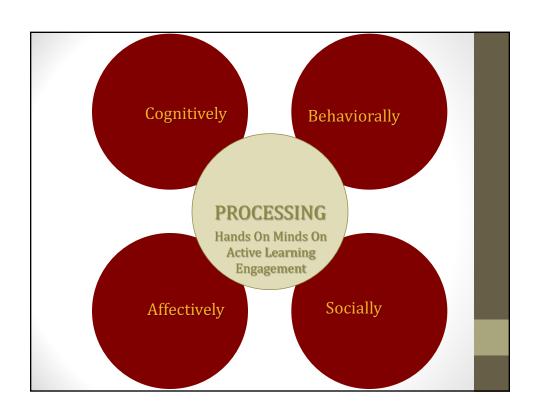




# Activity #2

- Meaningful Learning
- Elaboration
- Imagery
- Self-Generation
- Self-Reference Effect
- Encoding Specificity

**Processing** 



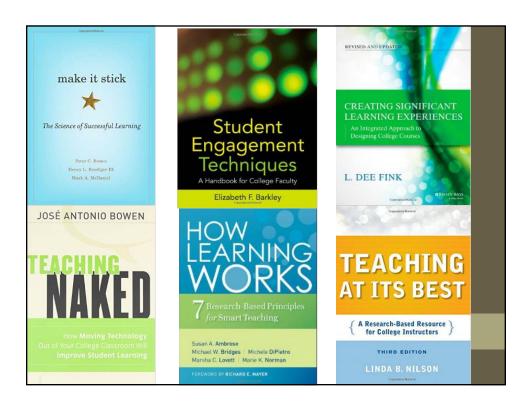
### The Need to be Clear

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VSdxqIBfEAw

# Deep & Flexible Knowledge

- 1. Practice at retrieval
- 2. Learning through varied tasks
- 3. Learning for varied purposes
- 4. Learning at the principle level
- 5. Learning awareness and control

Active learning is a continuum.



### 2015 T & L Symposium

### **Instructional Strategies**

- Student Presentations
- Semester Projects
- Low-Stakes Writing
- Reading Reflections
- Discussion Questions
- Self-Check Coastions
- Group w rich ets
- Field R search Activities
- Interactive Feedback Loops
- Practice (spaced/varied)

### Teaching Approaches

- Community by sed parning
- P. oject-bised Learning
- Flippi d Slassroom
- P ended Learning
- Inclusive Pedagogy
- Google Communities
- Team Teaching
- Hope & Grit Grading
- Gaming/Gamification
- MDA Framework

# 3 Levels of Active Learning

# Instructional Strategies

One-Minute Paper Durham College

# Instructional Approaches

SCALE-UP Univ of Minnesota PM SCALE-UP Virginia Tech

# Instructional Authenticity

Amphitheatre Virginia Tech

I have an idea...

# 3 Levels of Active Learning

Instructional Strategies

Cartooning University of Iowa Instructional Approaches

Flipped Classroom NCSU Instructional Authenticity

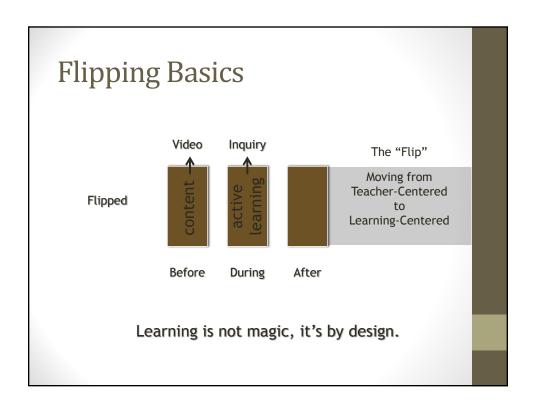
Professional Writing Virginia Tech

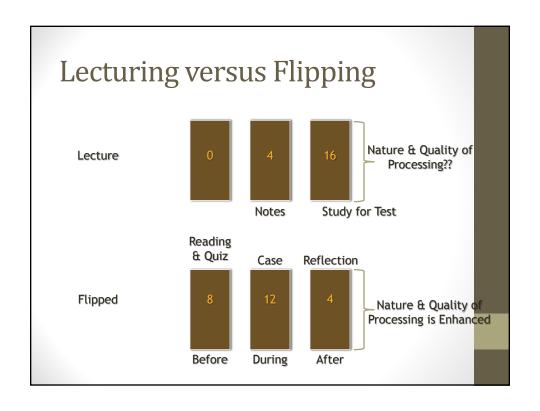
**RISK** 

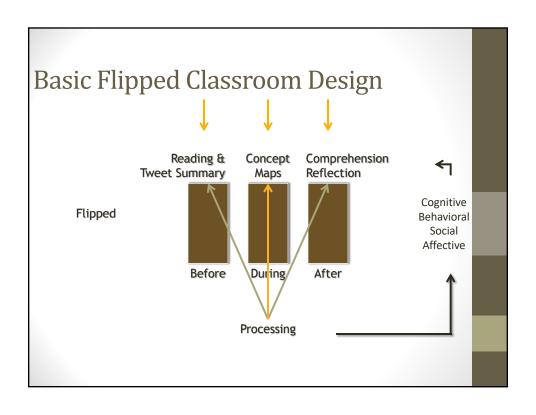
# Deep & Flexible Knowledge

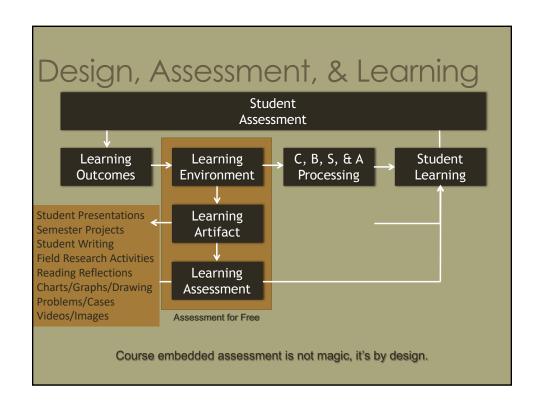
- 1. Practice at retrieval
- 2. Learning through varied tasks
- 3. Learning for varied purposes
- 4. Learning at the principle level
- 5. Learning awareness and control

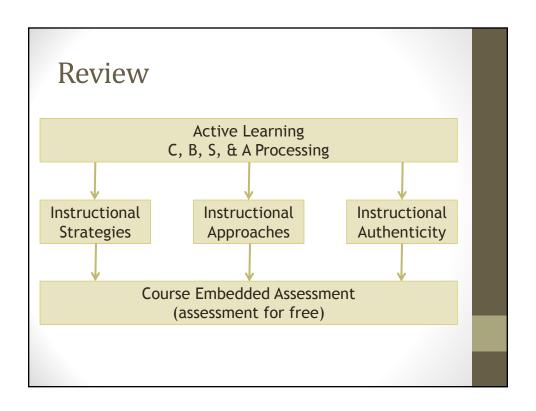
A Reminder...











### **Processing Matters**

http://www.teachertube.com/video/ma-and-pa-kettle-division-14983

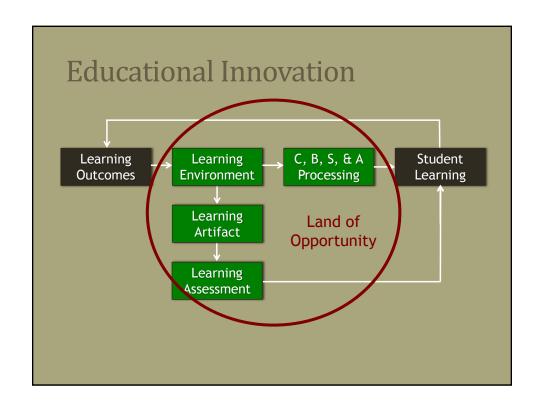
*Note:* The following 5 slides were not addressed in the presentation due to time.

### Innovation

### Innovation

- a different product, process, strategy, or approach that improves significantly upon the status quo.
  - Jim Shelton, Assistant Deputy Secretary of the Office of Innovation and Improvement at the U.S. Department of Education
- different and better

# Educational Innovation Instructional practice Instructional assessment Class organization Text/content resource use Technology use/integration Student Learning



### **Educational Innovation**

- Individual Innovation
  - Bottom up
  - · Narrowly focused
  - Course based
- Institutional Innovation
  - Top down
  - Broadly focused
  - Curriculum based

Individual and Institutional Collaboration

Opportunity Exciting Now

### **Active Learning Caveats**

- 1. Remember the Past
- 2. Avoid Silver Bullets
- 3. Focus on Research Not Rhetoric

### Change the World

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SswMzUWOiJg

# Active Learning & Innovation

Leveraging Research, Not Rhetoric, in Pursuit of Deep and Flexible Learning







Peter E. Doolittle

Assistant Provost of Teaching and Learning
Executive Director, Center for Instructional Development and Educational Research
Professor, Educational Psychology, Department of Learning Sciences & Technology
Virginia Tech • Blacksburg • Virginia