FRAMEWORK FOR INTER-DISCIPLINARY PLANNING

ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECT MANAGEMENT ACADEMY (NSF #1712028)
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Identify a Problem

Select a problem that requires multiple areas of expertise/disciplines to address. The problem should also lend itself to an end-of-semester collaborative project. (i.e. Solar Panel Feasibility Study for the New Wilmington Borough Council)

Identify Appropriate inter-disciplinary Applications

Identify applications for each area of study, as well as common inter-disciplinary applications. (i.e. Weekly Case Study Activity)

Create Shared Student Outcomes

Create shared instructional content delivery and co-curricular assignments that students complete throughout the semester. These are collaborative activities that require effective communication, foster inter-dependence and allow students to experience failure (i.e. Marshmallow Tower)

Create Breaks in Material

Chunk information and assignments into workable "bites" for students. Students should be challenged, but not completely overwhelmed. Assignments are structured with a high degree of support at beginning and gradually move towards learner autonomy. (i.e. Zoho Assignments, weekly labs)

Hold Weekly Meetings

Professors hold weekly meetings with each other and the class to discuss issues, obtain feedback, share the "wins", make necessary adjustments, etc. This promotes self-reflection and self-growth, as well as accountability. (i.e. Management Mondays, CATME and Leadership Reflections)

Identify Community Partner

Find community partners who share the same goal (for addressing the problem being explored) and who will be instrumental partners in allowing students to collect data and complete the overall project itself. (i.e. Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition)