Group Work Dynamics

How this works:

Understanding is being able to apply what you have learned to new situations and problems.

I will be breaking up the class into groups of four. You will be responsible for each other, and need to help each other throughout the semester. Group roles are as follows:

GATEKEEPER: This is the group leader. Responsible for keeping the group on task and making sure that everyone is contributing. This person will speak for the group in question/answer sessions, will go to the board to represent group work, etc.

RECORER: This person takes notes of learning and action taking place in the group. Document questions, answers, and write the group summary at the end of the class.

TIME KEEPER: This person is in charge of making sure the group completes in-class assignments on time and making sure everyone is “on-top” of their HW.

CHECKER: This person fills out the group attendance sheet, hands in the group folder at the end of class and makes sure that the folder is neat, in order, and legible.

Group roles change from week to week. So everyone will have a chance to participate in each role throughout the semester.

Group Points

You will earn group points in the following manner: (All points impact your class ranking/grade)

1. HW/Notes Check: Each week, I will randomly ask a member from each group to turn in his/her HW and class notes. This could happen any day of the week and for any group member. I am looking for good organization, neatness, completeness, and overall correctness. Each week will be worth 10 points. The whole group gets the same grade as the individual who turned in the work. I recommend that you make your notes/HW portable so that you can turn it in. I also recommend that you keep your notes separate from your notes.

2. Individual Attendance: 0-3 absences (25 pts) B) 4 absences (20 pts) C) 5 absences (15 pts) D) 6 absences (10 pts). E) 7 absences (5 pts). No points if more than 7 absences. These points work like extra credit on the final ranking prior to assigning letter grades for the course.

3. Group Quizzes—These are more like group interventions. If the group average on a quiz is 60% or below, or HW/Note Checks go poorly, or Canvas discussion from all members of the group is subpar, I will ask the group to come visit me in my office outside of class to talk about math and take a quiz. You can earn enough extra credit points to bring the group’s latest quiz average to a 64%.

Spring 2014

Typical class day:

☺ 5—10 minutes: Group work. HW, questions, preview, prep, etc.

☺ 30—35 minutes: Lecture mixed in with group work and in class discussions.

☺ 5 minute: Ticket out, summarize and record group work and/or questions from the class period.

Collaborative Learning Techniques

Ticket In

Ticket Out

Think-Pair-Share

Peer Editing/Grading