



Partnered In and Out of Class Assignments

Pairs of students (assigned or student-chosen) work on assignments from simple readings to major projects.

Appropriate Student Level: Any

Suggested Class Size: 3 - 25

Ease of Use Rating: Easy

Activity Description:

In a course where a large group is not necessary, small pairs may be more appropriate. The pairs can share reading assignments, study together, and complete projects together. These pairs can be assigned or chosen, depending on the goal of the instructor. What makes the “Partners’ activity different than just working in pairs is the exclusivity of the pair. These partners are permanent for the entire course; they are expected to take responsibility for each other and the work that they produce. The partners may be considered ‘lab partners’ of sorts, but the context is different.

Similar considerations to forming groups should be given to forming pairs. (see “*Some suggestions for forming groups*” for more information on groups)

References:

Paulson, Donald R (1999), “Active learning and cooperative learning in the organic chemistry lecture class”, *Journal of Chemical Education*, 76(8); pg. 1136

The Core Competencies are:

1. Writing, speaking and/or other forms of self-expression
4. Collaborative learning and teamwork
6. Activities that promote the understanding of issues pertaining to social behavior, scholarly conduct, and community responsibility
7. A significant alternative competency for active learning designed for and appropriate to a specific course