

Positive Interdependence

Team 2

Definition

Positive Interdependence- Team members are obliged to rely on one another to achieve the goal. If any team members fail to do their part, everyone suffers consequences.

Johnson, D. W.; Johnson, R. T.; Smith, K. A. Active Learning: Cooperation in the College Classroom, (2nded.); Interaction Book: Edina, MN. 1998.

Promoting Positive Interdependence

Assign different roles to team members

Coordinator- reminds team members of meetings, keeps everyone on task during team meetings

Recorder- prepares the final solution to be turned in

Checker- double-checks the solution before it is handed in, makes sure assignment is turned in on time

Monitor- checks to be sure everyone understands the solutions and the strategies used to get them

Use Jigsaw to set up specialized expertise within each team.

Calls for expertise in several distinct areas.

In a laboratory exercise, areas of expertise might include experimental design, equipment calibration and operation, data analysis, and interpretation of results in light of theory.

Each expert is given specialized training.

The teams count on each member to provide his or her expertise; quality depends on each member's contribution.

May test all members on all areas of expertise.

Promoting Positive Interdependence

Give bonus points on tests to all members of teams with average test grades above (say) 80%.

Linking the bonus to the team average grade gives all team members an incentive to get the highest grade they can and motivates the stronger students to tutor their teammates.

Arbitrarily assign which team member reports on each part of the project

Each student must make sure everyone on the team can report on what he or she did. This method provides both positive interdependence and individual accountability

Positive Interdependence (Smith)

Goal Interdependence

- identify what the group goals are and the individual goals
- both the group and individual should improve and reach goals

Role Interdependence

- each group member should have a specific, unique goal (task independence)
- try to rotate members so they each have a chance to achieve different goals

Challenge Interdependence

- each group should be “in competition” with other groups
- competition will strengthen team dynamics (unify for common goal)
- it is not necessary that each group member competes against each other

Environmental Interdependence

- each group should have a designated space to work (inside/outside class)

Reward/Celebration Interdependence

- each group should be rewarded as a whole for achieving goal
- it might be necessary to get different individual grades (use proper assessment)