

Teacher Training Sessions will be delivered on the following three topics:

1. Collaborative Learning:

Collaborative Learning is an educational approach to teaching and learning that involves groups of learners (peer-to-peer, small groups or in larger groups) working together to solve a problem, complete a task, or create a product (these are usually structured approaches to developing solutions to real-world problems). Collaborative learning can take a variety of forms, such as quick, active learning activities in class or more involved group projects that span the course of a semester.

Research has proven that active, social, engaging, contextual, and student-owned learning leads to deeper learning.

- The benefits of collaborative learning include:
- Development of higher-level thinking, oral communication, self-management, and leadership skills.
- Promotion of student-faculty interaction.
- Increase in student retention, self-esteem, and responsibility.
- Exposure to and an increase in understanding of diverse perspectives.
- Preparation for real life social and employment situations.

Includes co-operative learning strategies/activities such as:

- Stump your partner
- Think-pair-share/ Write-pair-share
- Catch-up
- Fishbowl debate
- Case study
- Team-based learning
- Group problem solving
- Jigsaw
- Inside-outside circle
- Reciprocal teaching
- Round Robin
- Four Corners
- Placemat
- Graffiti

2. Flipped Classroom:

A flipped classroom is an instructional strategy and a type of blended learning that reverses the traditional learning environment by delivering instructional content, often online, outside of the classroom. Here, the underlying premise is that students review lecture materials outside of class and then come to class prepared to participate in teacher-guided learning activities. This allows class

time to be devoted to expanding on and mastering the material through individual or collaborative learning exercises, case based exercises, problem sets, projects, and discussions. Flipping the classroom is a “pedagogy-first” approach to teaching. In this approach in-class time is “re-purposed” for inquiry, application, and assessment in order to better meet the needs of individual learners. The main goal in flipping a class is to cultivate deeper, richer learning experiences for students when the teacher is present to coach and guide them. The emphasis of class time as dedicated to the development of higher-order thinking skills and the application of the material learned at home to solve complex problems.

3. Inquiry-Based Learning:

Inquiry-based learning is a teaching approach which involves investigating issues, events or phenomena, solving problems, drawing conclusions and creating new knowledge as an extension to the student’s natural curiosity. It is not about finding a “correct answer” but instead, it is an avenue to explore a wide variety of possible explanations and solutions or may lead to generating further questions to a problem or issue.

When using Inquiry-Based Learning models, students craft open ended, appropriate questions which drive their investigations. They gather information from a variety of texts/sources and note observations, communicate their results and findings determined by purpose and audience, and self-reflect on their process.