



Management of Group Work

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Introduction

- Group selection
- Group management
- Group assessment
- Some observations



Group Selection

- Random selection by staff (heterogeneous)
- Self-selection
- Streamed + self selection (homogeneous)



Group management

- Regular meetings
- Process mark
 - All students actively involved
 - Initiative/ Commitment
 - Meeting attendance



Group Assessment

- Report 55%
- Presentation (Oral or Poster) 15%
- Process 30%
- Report assessment
 - Content
 - Understanding
 - Presentation



Mark distribution

- Students are required to agree on their relative contributions to the group project.
- To assist this a form and self-assessment sheet are provided
- Criteria are provided to help this assessment, and students are encouraged to note the reasons for their self-assessment.
- The group should have a meeting to discuss the self-assessments and agree each person's mark for each category.
- A statement must be provided if all group members have exactly the same level of contribution.
- Each group must submit the final group assessment table together with each individual's self-assessment with the written report.



Mark Distribution Form

Name			
Regular attendance at group meetings			
Contribution of ideas for project			
Researching, analyzing and preparing material			
Contribution to cooperative group process			
Supporting and encouraging group members			
Practical contribution to report and presentation			
Total			



Self-Assessment Sheet (part)

10 marks	0 marks	Justification for mark	Mark
<i>Regular attendance at group meetings</i> Attended all meetings, stayed to agreed end, worked within timescale, active and attentive, prepared to be flexible about meeting times	Missed several/most meetings, always or often late, left early, digressed, day dreamed, gossiped most of the time		
<i>Contribution of ideas for the project</i> Thought about the project in advance of meetings, provided workable ideas which were taken up by the group, built on others' suggestions, was prepared to test out ideas rather than keep quiet	Didn't come prepared, didn't contribute any ideas, tended to reject others' ideas		



Some observations

- Students generally happy with self-selection method of forming groups
- Students sometimes express concern for friends in lowest ability group with homogeneous grouping
- Some concern that marks do not reflect what they put in to project/ group work
- Some students struggle with mark distribution for reasons of personal philosophy or desire to avoid conflict
- Student determined mark distribution does reflect different contributions – but not to the full extent



Some more Observations

- Groups of 3 are best
- After first project groups reluctant to fill in self-assessment
- Plagiarism
- Exams – are they needed?
- Resources