

What is the flipped classroom?

“Flipped classroom” is a form of active learning that shifts information delivery to out-of-class time, and application of concepts to in-class time.

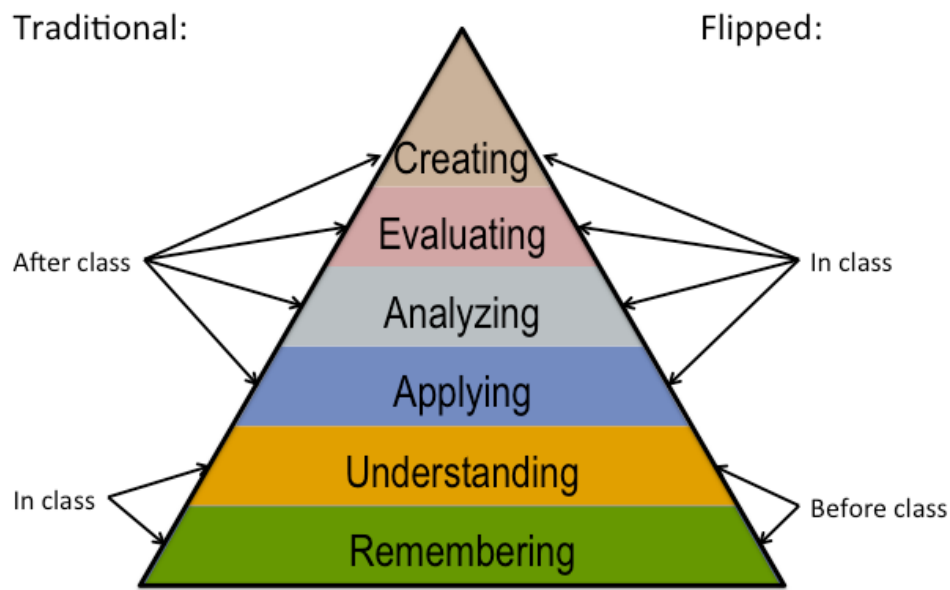
HOW DOES IT WORK?

Traditional Lecture Mode:

- In-class time devoted to lower-order tasks like Remembering and Understanding
- After-class time used for higher-order skills like Applying, Analyzing, Evaluating and Creating

Flipped Classroom:

- Lower-order tasks addressed before class
- Higher-order skills developed in class, in the presence of faculty expertise



HOW IS IT EFFECTIVE?

Active learning in general has been found to be more effective than lectures:

- Lecture-based courses lead to 50% more course failures than active learning courses
- Active learning courses lead to an average increase of 6% on exam scores
- All learners benefit, but under-represented minorities benefit the most

HOW DO I “FLIP” MY CLASSROOM?

Step-1: Set Expectations

Get buy-in from students participating in the flipped classroom:

- Importance of coming to class prepared
- Importance of being willing to engage in activities
- Emphasis on teamwork and lifelong learning skills

Step-2: Write or Record a Pre-Class Assignment

- Assignment can be reading a chapter from textbook or syllabus, watching video modules (vodcasts), or both.
- Make the assignment reasonable; focus on content needed to succeed in class.
- Vodcast tips:
 - Keep it brief
 - Keep it conversational
 - Emphasize good audio quality
 - Develop good graphics: pictures, graphs, diagrams, etc.

Step-3: Create a Check-for-Understanding Quiz

- Focus on core concepts only; don't expect learners to apply the concepts
- Can be administered before class or upon arrival in class
- Can be graded or ungraded
- Include a “muddiest point” question to ask what learners find challenging

Step-4: Develop In-Class Assignments

- Many active learning strategies can be employed in class. For example:
 - Think-Pair-Share
 - High Structure
 - Case Discussion
 - Chalk Talk

- Team-Based Learning
- Computer Simulations
- Specific method will depend on context: content, size of class, amount of time, etc.
- Ask, don't tell

WHAT SHOULD I WATCH OUT FOR?

Flipped Classroom efforts sometimes run into challenges in the following areas:

- Too much content—not enough pruning
- Too much emphasis on pre-class assignments—not enough emphasis on in-class exercises
- Assessments focused on lower-order skills (Remembering, Understanding), and not enough on higher-order skills (Applying, Analyzing, Evaluating and Creating)