

Teaching in Large Classes Engaged or Not?



DVC(A) asked....How can we decrease
withdrawal and failure rate in first
year?

OLT project: Transitions in Biology- Secondary to Tertiary

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First Year Biology in Australia

- What is being taught
- How it is being taught
- Who is being taught
- How it is assessed

Large classes are cheap....

- So if they stay, how can we engage students?

- 1. Project based teaching
 - Singapore
 - Faculty of Science and Engineering at Flinders University
 - Start with first year biology

Structure

- Pre lecture
- Lecture
- Lectorial
- Lab – again costly...how much time in the lab?
- Supervised study
- Could this eventually go across disciplines?
How could we do this?

Research – in first year, is it too hard??

- Engage a very diverse group (36 different degree programs)
- Provide problems to students who need to acquire knowledge in other disciplines to solve their problem...
- These can be real world problems which could receive funding by industry.