Models for multiple instructors/facilitators in one course

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Outline

1. Goal - to have you think about team teaching, the advantages, the problems
2. Introduce and define team-teaching
3. Why should we team-teach?
4. Team-teaching with students
5. Role-playing - what are the problems of team-teaching?
How old is the idea of team-teaching at Universities?

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Who was the Prime Minister?</th>
<th>Who was the President?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) R. B. Bennett</td>
<td>a) H. Hoover</td>
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<tr>
<td>b) L. St. Laurent</td>
<td>b) D. Eisenhower</td>
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<td>c) L. B. Pearson</td>
<td>c) L. Johnson</td>
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<td>d) P. Trudeau</td>
<td>d) R. Nixon</td>
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Definition of team-teaching

- The ‘problem’, there are many different terms

- Those many names:
  - Team-teaching
  - Co-instructing
  - Joint lecturing
  - Collaborative teaching

- Most common: Team-teaching

- Most common definition: more than one instructor in one course
In CBS, what percent of courses are taught by more than one instructor?

- MCB: $\frac{1}{3}$
- IB: $\frac{1}{6}$
- HHNS: $\frac{1}{4}$
Different forms of team-teaching

• Broadly there are only three forms:

1. Serial
   • Alternate, teaching uninterrupted Alternate more than once

2. Parallel
   • Each section is taught by a separate instructor

3. 2+ Instructors
   • Lectures are shared
Serial teaching

- Most of our courses are taught this way

- But is it truly serial?
  a) Content to be delivered
  b) Number and types of assessments
  c) Final exam - cumulative?
  d) Grading assessments
Advantages of serial teaching

- Students get different perspectives and expertise
- Teaching loads can be more easily distributed
- You don’t have to work with a colleague that you don’t like
Parallel teaching

- Same course, different sections
- Appears to be more common in the physical sciences
- Often there is a coordinator that writes the assessments
2+ Instructors

1. Instructors with similar backgrounds/expertise
   - One instructor lectures, the other may circulate

2. Two instructors with different expertise
   - Provide either contrasting views on the same topic, or approach the same problem with different techniques

3. One university instructor and one instructor who works in the field
   - Often used with education students

4. 1+ Instructors, education facilitator
   - An independent observer and expert on education
Advantages of 2+ Instructors for Instructors

- The ability to see how students are doing with lecture material or a problem
- The complimentary knowledge in a field
- Different ways to find a solution
- Help and support for lesson planning, creating assessments, course syllabus etc.
- Experienced instructors can help novices
Advantages of 2+ Instructors for Students

- Improve the chances of keeping a student’s attention (change of voice and rhythm)
- See interdependence and correlations within a topic and between different topics
- Increased office hours (no more excuses, right?)
- Students see how groups operate
2+ Instructors

- Many courses have some level of team teaching
- Instructors + lab coordinator
- Instructors + TAs
- Instructors + SLGs
- In all cases, generally students find it easier to approach non-instructors for help
Students as teachers

- Osgood et al. BAMBED 2005
- Not quite collaborative learning
- Course is biochemistry for non-majors
- Educational Assistants (EAs) are undergraduate students
- EAs are in a course called “Biochemistry Education”
Student as teachers

- Biochem Ed course gives EAs information on teaching practices, theories on learning, class problem-solving strategies
- Involved in weekly discussions, tutoring and providing one lecture, exam preparation and more
- Assessed by course instructors
- EAs showed improved scores on ACS biochemistry exam, more confident with their soft skills
Role-playing exercise

- To look at the disadvantages of various forms of team-teaching
- Make groups (there are three sets of issues)
- Find your match - same circled number
- Read over the scenario, discuss the concerns with each other, then we will share with the group