

# Creating an Online Group Activity in Blended Course

While these tips work with blended learning, some have crossover value in purely online environments.

*Nancy Fichtman Dana, Ph.D.  
Professor, School of Teaching and Learning  
University of Florida  
2215 Norman Hall  
PO Box 117056  
Gainesville, FL 32611  
(352) 273-4204*

## 1 PREPARATION

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- Map out online and F2F components before course starts.
- Orient the student to LMS at beginning of course.
- Use LMS with other activities (announcements, discussions, office hours)
- Prime the group activity with grouped discussions to create comfort within online environment.
- Model the activity and set expectations in F2F class before online project starts.

## 2 IMPLEMENTATION

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- Provide template if activity is very complex to ensure more uniform quality.
- Group size does matter (small enough that all members are accountable to each other).
- Assigning students to groups based on participation and relationships in class instead of just randomly creating groups.
- Check in and track group work regularly in online shell.
- Use peer evaluations (students rate each other's effort) and assign points for participation.
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### 3 SUMMATION

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- Peer review on formative and summative group projects.
- Groups present projects and share learning process and even pitfalls.
- Create summative artifacts that have value beyond the course lead to increased student engagement and investment.

