

Team Teaching TOK

Benefits
And
Challenges

Why Accept One World View?

“encourage an interest in the diversity of ways of thinking and ways of living of individuals and communities”

TOK Guide (2006) pg. 5

Why Accept One Perspective?

“demonstrate an understanding of different perspectives on knowledge issues
Draw links and make effective comparisons between different approaches to knowledge issues”

TOK Guide (2006) pg. 5

*How Can We Foster
Inter-cultural Understanding?*

“The TOK aims embody many of the attributes needed by a citizen of the world: Interest in other people’s point of view;”

TOK Guide (2006) pg. 4

The nature of TOK makes it ideal for Team Teaching

“The order in which the topics may be approached is flexible, however, many entry points and sequences are possible. It is left to teachers to design their courses within whatever frameworks they prefer.” TOK Guide (2006) pg. 7

The Nature of TOK makes it impossible
for one teacher to teach

- Vast scope of the syllabus
- Different areas of specialisation
- Jack of all trades approach
- One sided viewpoint
- No moderation

Why are teachers reluctant to team teach?

- Unfavourable comparisons
- Teacher loyalty
- Loss of control/ownership
- Who takes credit/blame?
- Loss of limelight

Challenges

- Time Constraints
- Loss of flexibility
- Division of roles
- Interpretation of Assessment Criteria

Challenges

- Incompatibility with team members
- Clash of ideologies
- Lack of bonding with students
- Whose responsibility?

We Shall Overcome

- Planning
- Communication
- Compromise

The Big Problem

- Fragmentation of Course
- Continuous Linkage

Benefits for Teachers

- Reduced Prep
- Enhanced preparation in select areas
- Shared responsibility
- Automatic moderation
- More variety/less boredom

Benefits for Teachers

- Exposure to different perspectives
- Maximizing available expertise
- Synergy
- Professional development for teachers
- Group dynamics

Benefits for Students

- Varied instruction
- Different perspectives
- More resources
- Greater exposure
- Higher expectations
- Less boredom

How to make it work

- Strong coordination
- All involved in goal setting
- Good communication
- Effective allocation
- Professional attitude
- Looking at the total picture
- Shared responsibility for delivery of course
- Administrative responsibility for one group

An Effective Team

- Different specialisations
- Different cultures
- Different age groups
- Male and Female
- Shared enthusiasm and goals

Possible Models

The background is a solid teal color. In the lower right quadrant, there is a faint, stylized illustration of a hand holding a pen, rendered in a lighter shade of teal. The hand is positioned as if about to write, with the pen tip pointing towards the center of the page.

Model 1

4 groups

4 teachers

8 rotations

Year 1

4 rotations

Initial Introductory Session

Plenary – Team Leader

Ways of Knowing

Teacher A Perception Group 1

Teacher B Emotion Group 2

Teacher C Language Group 3

Teacher D Reason Group 4

Complete Presentation

Year 2

4 Rotations

Areas of Knowledge

Teacher A	Science/Math	Group 1
Teacher B	Ethics	Group 2
Teacher C	History/Humanities	Group 3
Teacher D	Arts	Group 4

Complete and submit essay

Model 2

Year 1 – First Semester

Ways of Knowing

Covered by each teacher with own group.

Year 1 – Second Semester

4 Rotations

Teacher A	Science/Math	Group 1
Teacher B	Ethics	Group 2
Teacher C	History/Humanities	Group 3
Teacher D	Arts	Group 4

Presentation completed by year end

Year 2 – 2 Semesters

Semester 1

4 Rotations

Each teacher to discuss 2 titles with groups in turn

Semester 2

Complete and submit essay under supervision of original teacher

Model 3

1 Group

2 Teachers

Alternate: W O K

A O K

Guest Speakers

Assessment

Presentation – Internally Assessed

By at least two of the teachers

Essay – Externally Assessed

Each teacher to be responsible for one group.