

In-Class Action-Based Learning Activities

PMI (plus – minus – interesting)

Bloom's Revised Learning Objective: evaluate (synthesis)

Purpose:

- assists in decision-making and critical thinking
- provides a platform for analysis of topics and ideas
- allows students to process new and previously learned information
- enhances higher level thinking skills
- promotes group discussion
- allows ongoing assessment of student learning

Application:

- have your students record the information discussed during the class
- record the responses on a large sheet of paper (or a board) that is divided into three columns
- label the three columns “P”, “M”, and “I”
- the P represents the pluses, positives, likes or things that the class thinks works well about a topic; the M represents the minuses, negatives, dislikes or reasons why something did not work; and, the I represents the things that the students find interesting or would like to know more about regarding the topic at hand
- as the students respond with their thoughts, have them record on the sheet or board their responses into the appropriate categories
- following the free-flow of ideas, lead a discussion on the columns allowing for input from all of your students

Tips:

- remind your students that all appropriate responses are okay responses
- allow students to take notes and write any comments down to increase their learning and recall once the activity is finished
- have students explain their own thinking and categorizing; this is critical and allows them to process at a higher level of understanding