USE CASE

Manage and review feedback in large student cohorts with Group Member Evaluation

Context

This introductory course in cellular biology lasted 12 weeks and was aimed at first-year bachelor students intending to become healthcare professionals. There was a high diversity among the approximately 550 students in terms of ethnic and social background, however about three quarters of the students were 17-18 years of age. Group Member Evaluation was used to support within-group feedback to peers, in the context of a project to construct and present a poster about a researcher or healthcare professional.

The instructor started using Group Member Evaluation to create more efficiency with the feedback process in this large student cohort, and to save time and cost over manually processing feedback.

Constructive alignment

Learning objectives

- Students can work as effective communicators and collaborators, working in and leading teams with diverse peers, colleagues, and clients.

Learning activities

In addition to various other activities, students work in groups to produce and present on a poster relating to an academic or PhD student at the institution. With constructive feedback and feed forward in mind, learners are asked to reflect on and review the skills and performance of their group members (as well as self-reflect) over the course of the five to six weeks in which this project takes place. Rubric criteria upon which feedback is given include reliability and punctuality in attending meetings, and showing respect to others’ contributions.

Students choose a rating for each criteria (with scores of 100, 75, and 50) to quantify the performance and contribution of their fellow group members during the project.

A self-to-peer assessment ratio is generated based on the ratio between self-scoring and peer-scoring and this is taken into account when calculating the final grade.

Learning activities based on the Bloom taxonomy, are mainly at the level of:

- **Evaluate** the skills of peers according to given criteria