4 A's of Lesson Planning

PLANNING + INSTRUCTION

Activate Prior Knowledge

Access prior knowledge and activate students' schemas by including:

Gallery walks Concept mapping Q&As

Brainstorming Games

Acquire New Knowledge

Promote higher order thinking: enable students to make connections between course material and real-life experiences. Foster inquiry throughout lessons and among students by using:

Learning logs Note making Role play

Guest speakers Group discussions Think/pair/share

Mini lessons Journaling

Viewing & listening Visual representations

Application

Consolidate what has been learned and make it relevant. Use methods such as:

Learning logs Performances Simulations

Exit slips Publications Demonstrations

Sharing of products Real-world activities Case Studies

Debriefing on process Scenarios

Assessment

Assess what has been learned and what needs to be further developed. Consider the following:

Quizzes Think/pair/shares Blackboard discussion

Open-and closed-book Small conferences posts

tests Clickers/poll

everywhere/games

