

# Energizing the Lecture: 3 Methods to Enhance Student Engagement

Aimee Pascale, Ph.D., ATC, CSCS

## Method 1: Imbed MC questions throughout the lecture

- Why?
  - Encourages long term potentiation
  - Maintains engagement & encourages participation
  - Educator can assess student knowledge & understanding
  - Students can monitor their own learning
- How?
  - Show of fingers
  - Colored cards
  - Chat feature (private or public) on Zoom
  - Clickers
  - [PollEverywhere](#)
  - [Socrative](#)
  - [Kahoot](#)

## Method 2: Think, Pair, Share

- Why?
  - Participation & direct peer engagement
  - “Think” time allows for more thoughtful responses
  - Critical consideration of thoughts of others
  - Helps instructor gauge student comprehension of material
  - Helps students gauge their own comprehension of material
- How?
  - “Think” time should be 1-3 mins
  - “Pair” time should be 2-5 mins
  - “Share” time depends on size and length of class, usually 5-10 mins
  - Consider using in conjunction with MC
  - Ideal for critical thinking

## Method 3: Kinesthetic Engagement

- Why?
  - Movement increases cerebral blood flow, enhancing cognitive processing
  - Stimulates multiple areas of the brain through multi-sensory processing
  - Integrates kinesthetic stimulus with visual and auditory
- How? – *Can vary significantly depending by discipline*
  - Consider topics, concepts, mechanisms that can be reinforced kinesthetically via body movement

**Resources:**

Barkley, E. F., & Major, C. H. (2016). *Learning assessment techniques: A handbook for college faculty*. Jossey-Bass.

Doyle, T., & Zakrajsek, T. (2019). *The new science of learning: How to learn in harmony with your brain*. Stylus.

Harrington, C., & Zakrajsek, T. (2017). *Dynamic lecturing: Research-based strategies to enhance lecture effectiveness*. Stylus.

Lang, J. (2016). *Small teaching: Everyday lessons from the science of learning*. Jossey-Bass.

Major, C. H., Harris, M. S., & Zakrajsek, T. (2016). *Teaching for learning: 101 intentionally designed educational activities to put students on the path for success*. Routledge.