

**Key Components of the Flipped Classroom**

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## Introduction

## A flipped classroom operates on the principle of reversing the traditional instructional model. Instead of delivering lectures during class time, students are assigned to engage with course materials independently before attending class sessions. This typically involves watching pre-recorded lectures, reading assigned materials, or completing online activities. Class time is then dedicated to interactive discussions, collaborative problem-solving, and hands-on application of concepts.

Let's take a closer look at the key features of this innovative and modern form of teaching and learning…

**What are the Main Characteristics of a Flipped Classroom?**

The educational process commences with students assuming responsibility for acquiring foundational knowledge independently outside of class. Through pre-assigned materials such as recorded lectures, readings, or online resources, learners engage in self-directed study to establish a conceptual framework and familiarity with the subject matter. This shift places the onus of initial content absorption squarely on the shoulders of the students, encouraging autonomy and self-regulated learning practices.

Once students have established a foundational understanding of the material, class time is transformed into a dynamic arena for application and practice. Rather than serving as passive recipients of information, learners actively engage in collaborative discussions, group work, and practical exercises facilitated by the instructor. These interactive activities provide opportunities for students to consolidate their knowledge, apply theoretical concepts to real-world scenarios, and engage in critical thinking and problem-solving.

The physical learning environment in a flipping classroom is characterized by flexibility and adaptability. Educators creatively configure classroom spaces to accommodate diverse learning activities and preferences, whether through collaborative workstations, discussion areas, or independent study zones. This versatility enables instructors to cater to the varied needs and learning styles of their students, fostering an inclusive and conducive learning environment.

A hallmark of the flipped classroom approach is its student-centered ethos, which represents a departure from traditional teacher-led instruction. In this model, the focus shifts from passive reception to active engagement, with students taking a more proactive role in their own learning journey. By encouraging exploration, inquiry, and peer collaboration, the flipped classroom cultivates a culture of curiosity, critical thinking, and lifelong learning.

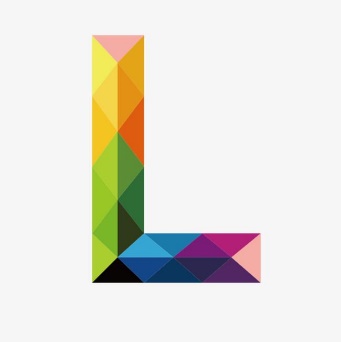
Central to the success of the flipping classroom is the intentional design of course materials by educators. Teachers carefully curate content to align with learning objectives, promote conceptual understanding, and facilitate procedural fluency. This deliberate approach ensures that instructional materials are relevant, accessible, and tailored to the specific needs of the learners, optimizing the effectiveness of the learning experience. Beyond content delivery, educators provide personalized feedback, guidance, and support to students as they navigate the learning process. By fostering a supportive and inclusive classroom environment, instructors empower students to take ownership of their learning, develop metacognitive skills, and become active participants in their educational journey.

**Many sources refer to the F-L-I-P word noting that the very initials of the word encapsulate the foundational principles that underpin the flipped classroom model.**

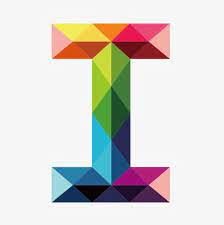
**So let’s take a closer look…**

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Flexible Environment: The first pillar, emphasizes the importance of adaptability and versatility in the learning space. Educators must create environments that can accommodate diverse learning activities, preferences, and modalities. This may involve rearranging classroom layouts, integrating technology, and providing opportunities for both independent and collaborative work. By fostering flexibility, educators empower students to take ownership of their learning and tailor their experiences to suit their individual needs.

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Learning Culture: The second pillar, embodies a fundamental shift from a teacher-centered to a student-centered approach. In a flipping classroom, the focus is on fostering a culture of active engagement, inquiry, and collaboration. Students are encouraged to explore topics in greater depth, participate in meaningful discussions, and take ownership of their learning journey. By cultivating a dynamic and participatory learning culture, educators create opportunities for deeper understanding, critical thinking, and knowledge creation.

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Intentional Content: The third pillar, underscores the importance of thoughtful and purposeful content design. Educators must carefully select and curate materials that align with learning objectives, promote conceptual understanding, and facilitate meaningful learning experiences. This may involve creating engaging multimedia resources, providing scaffolding and support materials, and integrating real-world applications. By designing intentional content, educators optimize student engagement, comprehension, and retention of key concepts.

****Professional Educators: The fourth pillar, highlights the critical role of educators as facilitators, mentors, and guides in the learning process. In a flipped classroom, educators serve as instructional leaders, providing guidance, feedback, and support to students as they navigate their learning journey. This may involve facilitating discussions, providing personalized instruction, and fostering a collaborative and supportive learning environment. By embracing a growth mindset, engaging in reflective practice, and continuously seeking professional development opportunities, educators enhance their effectiveness and impact in the flipping classroom.

## How to Design a Flipped Classroom

1st Define learning objectives by establishing clear learning objectives akin to laying the foundation for a scholarly journey. Define the educational goals and outcomes that students should achieve.

2nd Choose Tools Delve by selecting and curating educational resources meticulously, ensuring alignment with learning objectives and relevance to students' academic needs.

3rd Craft pre-class assignments that serve as preparatory groundwork, engaging students in meaningful exploration and priming their minds for in-depth discussion.

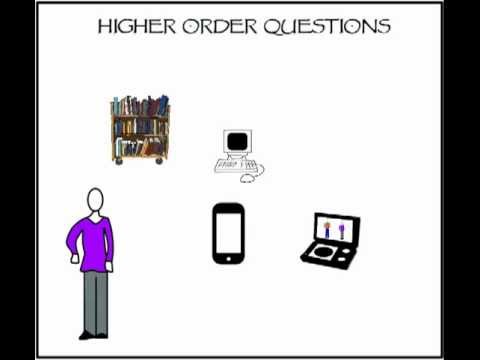
4th Function as a conductor orchestrating a symphony of engagement. Design in-class activities that stimulate critical thinking, collaboration, and application of acquired knowledge, fostering a dynamic and participatory learning environment.

5th Customize learning spaces by transforming into an adaptive designer. Tailor the physical classroom environment to accommodate diverse learning modalities, fostering inclusivity and flexibility in instructional delivery.

6th (good to be done) Cultivate the role of an inspiring mentor. Encourage students to actively engage in the learning process, igniting their intellectual curiosity and nurturing a passion for lifelong learning.

7th Engage in continuous reflection and iteration, leveraging insights gained from past experiences to refine instructional practices and optimize learning outcomes.

Watch the Video to get more familiar with the Key Components of the Flipped Classroom with some easy tips:

[](https://www.youtube.com/embed/Ln0iLPkasBY?feature=oembed)

Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ln0iLPkasBY>

### Useful Resources

The Flipped Classroom, Center for Teaching Excellence , UTRGV <https://www.utrgv.edu/cte/resources-new/course-design/flipped-classrooms/index.htm>

https://elearningindustry.com/flipped-classroom-new-generation-classroom

7 Things You Should Know About Flipped Classrooms, Boise State University <https://www.boisestate.edu/ctl-flipping/publications/7-know/>

Flipped Classroom: The New Generation Of Classroom, eLearning Industry <https://elearningindustry.com/flipped-classroom-new-generation-classroom>

7 Steps To A Flipped Classroom, By TeachThought Staff / March 20, 2013 / Learning / Blended Learning, Essential, Experienced Teacher <https://www.teachthought.com/learning/a-flipped-classroom/>

Flipped learning <https://elearning.tki.org.nz/Teaching/Future-focused-learning/Flipped-learning>

The advantages of a flipped classroom, WINJIGO <https://www.winjigo.com/the-advantages-of-a-flipped-classroom/>

THE FLIPPED LEARNING MODEL: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY, The Flipped Learning Network ™, along with researchers from George Mason University and with support from Pearson, undertook a comprehensive review of research relevant to the Flipped Learning model. Members of the FLN’s Research Committee contributed to the extensive bibliography and reviewed the full length Literature Review, Flipped Learning Network 2013

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