

Designing and Assessing Group Work

WIHEA Learning Circle (Open)

Introduction

- The Designing and Assessing Group Work Learning Circle exists to explore ways in which the challenges of assessed group work may be alleviated, focusing on how group tasks are initially conceived and ensuring that assessment approaches are more representative of the efforts of each individual involved.
- The Learning Circle works towards providing practical guidance for those designing and assessing group tasks, drawing on student experiences, existing research and scholarship from within and beyond Warwick, and examples of good practice across disciplines.

2025/26 Highlights

Group Work Perceptions across Warwick

- Supported by the WIHEA Learning Circle Fund, the Learning Circle conducted a student survey with over 200 responses on perceptions of group work at Warwick, examining how prepared and supported students feel. Student Callie Wilson and WIHEA Fellow Lewis Middleton are analysing the data to identify differences across departments and demographics.

NSS Data on Group Work

- The Learning Circle is also conducting a desk-based thematic analysis of the last **seven years of NSS comments** mentioning group work, drawing on over 500 responses to identify recurring themes and effective practice across departments. This will complement the survey findings and strengthen the evidence base behind the Learning Circle's guidance and recommendations.

Group Work Allocation Study

- WIHEA has awarded a seed fund to support a classroom project exploring a novel approach to group allocation, in which students are assigned to groups based on their self-reported skills and preferences. A follow-up survey is being analysed to examine student perceptions of the approach, and better understand how group composition influences learning outcomes.

Looking Ahead

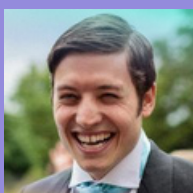
- Will develop practical resources and in-person training to support departments in designing and assessing group work.
- Group work will be a key part of Warwick's Education Strategy, promoting authentic assessment, graduate skills, and stronger approaches in the age of AI.
- Future plans include exploring inclusive group work for neurodivergent learners, and group work involving AI members.
- Thanks to Dr Mujthaba Ahtamad for his contributions as co-lead; the Learning Circle is now seeking a new co-lead to work alongside Ian.

Scan/click here to access the online guide for designing effective assessed group work:

https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/cross_fac/academy/activities/learningcircles/groupwork/resource/



Co-lead
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Co-lead
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Total Members

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