

Introverted Students and Students with Anxiety in CLAW 3 Classrooms

In CLAW 3 (Collaborative Learning and Active Workspaces) Active Learning Classrooms (ALCs) various engagement and assignment strategies can be utilized to maximize the value of these spaces. Studies have shown that ALCs positively impact learning for introverts and students with anxiety.

Specifically, the roundtable design reduces anxiety and emphasizes the student's focus on the material.ⁱ Below are various strategies you can employ to include students who are introverted or have anxiety.

Tips for Teaching Introverted Students and Students with Anxietyⁱⁱ

- Verbally acknowledge the ambient sound in an ALC.
- Dim lights and request monitors to be turned off when not in use.
- Allow "chaos" during group work but call for intervals of quiet.
- Encourage students with anxiety to sit near a door so they have easy access to an exit.
- Move around the room and be near students often.
- Create a way for students to ask questions (raise hands, call lights, etc).
- Flip the class by providing readings, video, and recorded lectures to allow students to examine content before class without distractions.
- If using flipped learning, give students time at the start of each class to discuss the content with classmates.

ⁱ Baepler, P. (2021). Student anxiety in active learning classrooms: Apprehensions and acceptance of formal learning environments. *Journal of Learning Spaces*, 10(2), 36-47.

ⁱⁱ Ibid.