

Assignment Builder

Develop Your R-Plan Assignment in 5 Steps

Step 1: Determine how students will know that the R-Plan assignment has been given.

- Will you email or send an announcement through Blackboard Learn?
- If you'll email, how will you get the students' contact information?
- What will your syllabus say about your R-Plan assignment?

Step 2: Choose your assignment.

- What's a lesson you wish you had time to cover, but doesn't fit in your semester?
- Will they write, research, reflection or create a presentation?

Example of Assignments:

Read and Reflect. Students read or watch something and write a reflection or answer a discussion prompt about it.

Presentations. Students create a group or individual "presentations" which they share online. Peers reply, comment and discuss.

Data Collection & Analysis. Students collect and analyze relevant data through a scheme you propose or they devise. They publish the data and analysis online, then discuss & comment in Blackboard.

News Analysis. Students research current events online, share links and analyze the events and the contemporary analysis.

Step 3: Determine if students will work alone or collaborate.

Comparison of Individual and Collaborative Work

Individual Work	Collaborative Work
Easier to complete	More complex
Steps include: 1. Prepare 2. Share 3. Discuss	Steps include: 1. Plan 2. Draft 3. Share 4. Revise 5. Finalize 6. Share 7. Debrief
Requires less time	Requires more time
Encourages self-development	Encourages peer-development and social learning

Step 4: Pick appropriate tools for the assignment or choose to let the students pick.

- What tools will meet the assignment’s objectives?
- What tools are available to your students?
- How will you have students rehearse using the tools?

Tools

Learning Activity	Blackboard Options	Other Options	Rehearsal Options
Collaborate synchronously (live in real time)	N/A	Zoom, Skype or Google Hangout (up to ten people) -or let students choose	Hold online office hours. Ask students to meet virtually.
Collaborate asynchronously	Discussion, Groups, Blogs	Google+, Facebook, Twitter	Ask students to introduce themselves online in a forum. Provide a formal discussion.

Learning Activity	Blackboard Options	Other Options	Rehearsal Options
Capture and share video	Smartphone, tablet or laptop with camera and share in YouTube or any social media	Smartphone, tablet or laptop with camera and share in YouTube or any social media	Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, FlipGrid or YouTube and share links in a discussion board.
Make and share slide presentations	Create a narrated PowerPoint in Windows, Sway in MS 365 or Google Presentation	Create and publish on Google Drive, Dropbox, Prezi, SlideShare, YouTube or any social media and share links	Faculty can create presentations in many different ways. Ask students to create a short presentation on a course topic.

Step 5: Write the instructions for the assignment:

Remember: You won't be there to explain the assignment in-person. Anticipate any questions students may have and provide clear answers to them like a FAQ.

Assignment Template

Assignment Title:	
Learning Objective(s):	By completing this assignment, students will:
Purpose:	What is the goal of the assignment and why is it important? How does this assignment connect to real-life application?
Assessment Method(s)	(example: Quality of contributions as stated in rubric)

Assignment Title:	
Time	(example: 3 hours)
Student Technology	(example: mobile device, laptop or desktop)
Description	
Step-by-step Instructions	
What if students have questions?	

