teaching & learning transformation center	To use this spreadsheet, think about the goal(s) you are trying to achieve as an instructor. There is more information about each potential goal below. Right click the letter above the goal you want and click "Sort Spreadsheet Z> A." The strategies that meet that goal will move to the top of the sheet.
Instructor Goal	Description
Synthesis	You want students to integrate and evalute multiple cross-cutting concepts.
Student Feedback	You want students to get information about how they are performing.
Review	You want students to engage with previously taught content to prepare for quizzes, exams, assignments, etc.
Problem Solving	You want students to practice applying concepts and solving problems.
Preview	You want to help students feel prepared and engaged at the start of a cource/unit/class/lecture.
Metacognition	You want students to develop skills as effective thinkers and learners.
Instructor Feedback	You want to get information about how you are teaching.
Formative Assessment	You want to gather data on what your students already know and where they may have misconceptions.
Connections	You want students to draw connections between the subject area, the non-academic world, and their personal lives.
Collaboration	You want students to work cooperatively with their peers.
Attention	You want to help students maintain attention and focus during lectures, readings, course activities, etc.

	ning & learning formation center		ution	Formative Assessment	Solving				ons	nition	Instructor Feedback	Student Feedback
Active Learning		Attention	Collaboration	ormativ	Problem	Preview	Review	Synthesis	Connections	Metacognition	structo	ndent I
Strategy	Description Instructor Goal(s) Met											Š
Lecture Summary	Students write or tell a partner a brief summary after a lecture or unit. Alternative - make a cartoon, write just one sentence, etc.		<u>~</u>	<u>~</u>				✓		~		
What? So What? Now What?	Students reflect on main points of a lesson, topic, or reading in writing or with a partner		\checkmark				\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark		
3-2-1	Have students reflect on 3 things they learned, 2 questions they have, and 1 way they can apply what they learned (index card, post-it, ELMS, etc.). Alternative - use different categories, e.g. instructor feedback, affective questions, etc.			~			~	~	~	~	~	
Minute Paper	Students write for one (or a few) minutes on a specific question. Alternatives - affective questions, instructor feedback questions			V		~	~	~	V	~	~	
Peer Interview	Students interview a partner about a recent learning unit, affective questions, project steps, need for support, etc.		~				<u>~</u>			<u>~</u>		~
Problem Recognition	Offer case studies or example problems and have students identify the type of problem rather than solving it (individually, in partners, or in groups)		~		~		<u>~</u>		<u></u>	~		
Self-Diagnosis	Students list main points from a class meeting, exam, reading, etc. and any unclear points, then reflect and analyze their own strengths and weaknesses. Alternatives - work with a partner; develop and turn in a "learning plan" to address weaknesses		~				~			~	~	
Speed Sharing	Students write questions, definitions, concepts, steps to solve a problem, etc. on index cards. They share with a partner for one minute, then rotate to new partners.		~		~		V		V	~		
Annotated Assignments	Students turn in work along with explanations of how the work relates to the course content or learning outcomes. Alternative - peers can annotate each others' work or annotate together.		~							~		~
Assignment/Study Logs	Students track length of time and approaches used to do readings, assignments, homework, studying, etc. outside of class. In class, students talk with peers to compare and contrast strategies and time. Alternative - group students by study strategy or group students with different study strategies together to discuss pros and cons; partners give feedback on each others' logs		V							V		✓
Project/Paper Prospectus	Students create a step-by-step plan for completing a project, writing a paper, or studying for an exam (individually or in partners)		~							~		
Exam Wrapper	When passing back exams, give enough feedback to allow students to review and possibly correct missed questions, reflect on how they prepared, and plan what they should do to prepare for the next exam									~		~
Reading/Exam/Assignment Rating	Students give feedback on readings, exams, and/or assignments - are they clear, interesting, connected to learning outcomes, helpful, fair, useful to learning, etc. (post-its, index cards, Google forms, ELMS survey, hand signals as ratings, etc.)									~	~	
Bumper Stickers	Students write slogan-like bumper stickers to highlight the most important concept from a presentation/unit/topic. Alternatives: license plate, meme, haiku, one sentence, draw a picture; individual or in groups		~				<u>~</u>	~	~			
Categorization	Provide terms, people, etc. that partners or groups need to categorize (index cards, post-its, Google Slides, Jamboard, etc.). Alternative - provide defining features and have students sort the terms by whether the feature is present or absent		~				<u>~</u>	~	~			
Student-Generated Test Questions	Students come up with questions they think will be on the exam, individually or in groups; Variation - students solve each others' problems		~				<u>~</u>	~				
Concept Map	Provide keywords that students must organize into a flow chart, concept map, or other organization (in groups or individually)		~					~				
Jigsaw	Students from established groups seperate to discuss a reading, topic, question, research area, etc and become experts with members of other groups. Then, each expert goes back to their original group to teach about their topic.		~		~			~	~			
Inside-Outside Circles	Students form an outer circle and inner circle and solve problems/have brief discussions with the partner across from them. After a few minutes, the inside circle stays and the outside circle moves one person, giving everyone a new partner. Alternative - form groups of three in a large circle. Each person is numbered one, two, or three. Ones stay, twos rotate clockwise, and threes rotate counterclockwise to form the next group.		~		~							
Peer Review	Students use a rubric, checklist, or other specific guidelines to offer feedback on a partner's assignment		~									~
Pre-Class Preview	Pose a question, prompt, etc. about the upcoming topic or have students ask a question. Students respond in writing, with a partner, on a post-it/index card, etc.		~			~						
Clearest Point/Muddiest Point	Students write what concepts/information/instructions they feel confident about and/or what is confusing (ELMS, index cards, post-its, Google Slides, Jamboard)			<u>~</u>			\checkmark				✓	
Pre-Assessment	Multiple choice or short answer questionnaire when introducing a new topic (ELMS, clickers, index cards, post-its, etc.)			~		~						
Idea Blender	Students individually write a definition, answer, idea, etc. They pair up and must combine/integrate their ideas. Then the pair joins another pair. Groups keep joining until a large group or the whole class has integrated all ideas.											
Question Ranking	Stop a lecture and ask groups to decide on one question that is most important for the instructor to answer right now. Alternative - have students write questions on index cards, then pass them around the room. Students should add checkmarks to the questions they are also wondering about	<u>~</u>	~	~						~	~	
Gallery Walk	Groups write an answer, solve a problem, brainstorm about a specfic topic, etc. on a whiteboard or chart paper. Then students walk around the room to view other groups' responses. Students can add to other work, make connections, review a metacognitive process, ask questions, vote, give feedback, etc. by adding post-its. Alternative - each group gets a Google Slide or Jamboard.	~	~		~	V	~		V	V		V
Lecture Response Roles	Before a lecture, assign students to be questioners (ask questions related to the material), example givers (provide applications), divergent thinkers (find something to disagree with), or highlighters (highlight important/helpful points). After the lecture, put students in groups with one of each role to debrief the lecture. Alternative - use same roles for reading responses	~	~				~			✓		
Sidebar/Parking Lot	Provide space for students to write questions or comments during a lecture to be addressed by students in real-time or by the instructor after the lecture (discussion board, Piazza, Google form, Google Slides, Jamboard, chart paper, post-its, whiteboard, etc.)	~	~							~	~	
_	Ask students to self-assess confidence of knowledge of a specific subject matter, clarity of instructions, level of active listening, time spent studying, etc. (Google form, Zoom poll, index cards, post-its, hand signals like "fist to five" - hold up a fist with zero fingers for no confidence, one	~		~						<u>~</u>	~	
Self-Assessment	fingerup to five fingers)											

trans	hing & learning sformation center	nion	Collaboration	Formative Assessment	Problem Solving	ew	w	nesis	Connections	Metacognition	Instructor Feedback	Student Feedback
Active Learning Strategies		Attention	Colla	Form	Prob	Preview	Review	Synthesis	Conn	Meta	Instr	Stude
Strategy	Description	Ins	stru	cto	r G		s) M	let				
Brainstorming/Word Sprint	Students come up with as many words/ideas as possible, independently or collaboratively. To extend, students can then categorize and/or prioritize responses (whiteboards, post-its, Jamboard, Padlet, etc.)	~	~	~		~	~	~				
Think-Pair-Share	After a question, students have time to think, then talk to a partner, then share. Instructors listen in on pair conversations to determine levels of understanding/misconceptions. Alternatives: think only; think and pair only; share with additional pair; share through writing (Google Slides, Jamboard, post-its, whiteboards, etc.); switch partners to answer same or different question; share partner's answer instead of own answer. Research shows whole-class "share" is least effective.	Y	~	~	~	~	~	~	~			
Chalk Talk	Use whiteboards around the room to write answers to prompts/assignments/questions. Alternatives - Google Slides, Jamboard, chart paper; Variation - students may not talk, only write	\checkmark	\checkmark		~	~	~	<u>~</u>	~			
Four Corners	Put a different topic to discuss, subject to review, article, problem, etc. in each corner. Assign or have students choose a corner to go to and discuss. Option: Write independently before and/or after discussing. Alternatives: Large classes can use more than four spots in the room; Online can give each group a Google Slide or Jamboard slide	V	~		~	~	~	~	~			
Six Degrees of Separation	Provide groups with a conceptial start point and end point and challenge them to connect the two in six moves or fewer.	~	~		~		~	~	~			
Interactive Notebooks	Students record notes from readings or lecture on one side of the notebook and respond personally with thoughts, questions, connections, drawings, etc. on the other side	~						~	~			
Word of the Day	Select an important term to highlight throughout class. Encourage students to tally, keep track of different meanings/contexts, use the word, etc. Alternative - students come up with a word of the day after class to summarize/synthesize class information	\checkmark						~				
Directed Paraphrasing	Ask students to paraphrase part of a lesson for a specific audience/purpose. Alternatives - write down, share in pairs	~	\checkmark				~					
Who/What am I?	Tape a key term on the backs of students. Students move around the room asking only yes/no questions to try to guess their term. Alternative - one partner gives clues to help the student guess the term	V	~				~					
Role Playing/Improv	Groups act out scenes that relate to concepts or discussions. Could be live or video recordings.	\checkmark	\checkmark						\checkmark			
Visual Discovery	Show an image that relates to the subject matter. Ask students to analyze what they see and infer (in groups or individually, give student(s) a laser pointer, write about it, etc.)	~	~			~			~			
Body Vote	Students move to different sides of the room (true/false), corners (multiple choice), or along a continuum (likert scale) to respond to questions. In-seat alternative: sitting vs. standing (true/false), American Sign Language letters (multiple choice), hold up numbers (multiple choice or likert scale)	~		~			~					
Response Cards	Distrubute index cards that can be held up in response to instructor questions (colors, letters, etc.)	\checkmark		\checkmark			\checkmark					
Review Games	Play Jeopardy, quiz games, pictionary, twenty questions, etc. to review content. Be sure to emphasize the most important topics and make questions the same level of complexity and format that they will be on the exam.	<u></u>		<u></u>	Т	Т						
Anonymous Peer Feedback	During student or group presentations, use post-its, index cards, blank paper, or an anonymous Google form and have students give structured (e.g. two specific compliments and two specific areas for growth) or unstructured feedback to the presenter	~										~
Lecture Mystery	Start a lecture/unit by asking an intriguing question (related to content that will be covered) that few will know the answer to. Give time to discuss to build curiosity. At the end of the lecture/unit, return to the question. Alternative - provide an interesting quote with missing key words	~				~			~			