

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY

Lesson Plan Criterion

All lesson plans, regardless of contents, should include the following 5 tenets/principles to ensure that they are developmentally appropriate and well developed.

1. **High Cognitive Demand:**
Activities all promote higher order thinking, questioning, higher-order learning goal; activities that require more than just foundation skills; high leverage practices
2. **Structured Cooperative Learning** (KAGAN structures of cooperative learning):
Activities promote student learning through pairs, and small groups and encourage students to exchange ideas, contents, and strategies.

KAGAN Resources:
http://www.melodyshaw.com/files/Cooperative_Learning_Kagan_Quick_Reference_Guide.pdf
<http://www.psd150.org//cms/lib2/IL01001530/Centricity/Domain/23/DescriptionsOfStrategies.pdf>
http://www.laspdg.org/files/2_kagan_strats.pdf
3. **Procedures:**
Descriptions of procedures (e.g. cues, transitions, and routines) must be embedded throughout the lesson plan. How will students move from one area to the next? What will the teacher say when s/he needs the class's attention?
4. **Communication:**
Descriptions of non-verbal cues; Emphasizing questioning over lecturing; using developmentally appropriate words in explaining big concepts; visuals; audio; incorporation of academic language; when explaining a concept – break into a smaller pieces;
5. **Active Learning:**
Total participation techniques, non-didactic; students are creating, applying, analyzing; doing & thinking; making knowledge; activities are experiential; brains-on-learning; not privileging language; what strategies/ techniques are fostering thinking/ listening?