NO TECH WAYS TO ENGAGE STUDENTS

Begin with the end in mind: Have a purpose for each exercise

Icebreaker exercises

   Cognate pairs – Give students two pieces of puzzle and have them find one another
   Line Up! – Get to know one another. Try this without allowing teams to talk to one another
   Take a Stand – Great for audience analysis and faster than audience response systems/clickers.
   Body Voting – Rather than giving a pen and paper self-assessment, have students move to their choice
   (e.g., Keirsey Temperament Sorter, Kolb learning styles, Flamholtz and Randle’s leadership styles)

Changeups

   Simon Says – quick mixer for getting students back from break or to switch topics
   Body Voting – No-tech form of clickers. Put out controversial topic and have students choose a side and
   then argue it.
   Write on Your Head is a fun way to introduce the importance of patience and conscious thinking during
   skill development.

Normative assessments

   Wait, Wait, Don’t Tell Me! – In class multiple choice questions and have students “sell” their choice.

Prompts for reflective thinking

   Stack the Cups requires coordination. Think about red cups as an opening to alcohol awareness
   discussions.
   Body Voting – No-tech form of clickers. Put out controversial topic and have students choose a side and
   then argue it. Ask students to defend their position and to discuss why they choose the “side” that they
   did.
   A Leg to Stand On enables students to consider the importance of social capital and student services
   support systems.

Teambuilding

   Helium Hoop requires communication, coordination, and synchronization.
   Stack the Cups requires coordination. Think about red cups as an opening to alcohol awareness
   discussions.

Critical thinking

   Body Voting – No-tech form of clickers. Put out controversial topic and have students choose a side and
   then argue it. Ask sides to investigate their positions further and to present their evidence.
   Newlywed Game – Give students partners and have them predict what the other will say (esp. good for
   busting stereotypes about gender, age, or ethnicity).
   Untangled requires thinking in a creative way. Students report high levels of dopamine.

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