

## **The Wiki Way: Fostering Online Reflection and Collaboration**

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Type of Strategy: Online learning where participants must collaborate in order to complete learning activities and assignments

Purpose, Goal(s) or Learning Outcome(s) for Strategy: The goal is to encourage people to use the strengths of the online environment in order to learn together in a collaborative manner in a way that also requires collaboration to complete assignments.

Type of Course: a graduate course exclusively online (participants were new faculty)

Name of Course: Graduate Certificate in Higher Education

Typical Number of Students in Course: 30+

Ease in which strategy could be modified and/or applied to other courses: Easy

Brief Overview of Strategy: Students are required to submit a wiki page summarizing and critiquing some of their own experience of professional education. This experience can be either their experience of teaching or being a student. Students are then required to comment on the pages submitted by other students, referring to the literature where possible. They are then required to respond to comments posted on their pages.

### Step-by-Step Instructions of Strategy

1. Students each submit a wiki page summarizing and critiquing some of their own experience of professional education whether as student or teacher.
2. Students comment on at least two pages of other students, relating to their own experience and the literature where appropriate.
3. Students respond to comments posted about their own pages.
4. Excerpts from the online dialog are used in the final assignment which requires participants to show how they have supported and contributed to the learning of other students in the course.

Additional Comments: It is important to provide, and actively support, a collaborative and informal environment in which people can feel safe to open up and reveal something of themselves and where comments can be offered and accepted in a constructive manner.

### Reference

Higgs J, Fish D, Goulter I, Loftus S, Reid J, Trede, F. (Eds.) (2010) *Education for future practice*, Rotterdam, The Netherlands: Sense.