

JiTT: Just in Time Teaching

What is it?

Just in Time Teaching is a method of using Web-posted content to gauge students' understanding of course concepts prior to a class meeting and involve them in class discussions by addressing their needs. This method would be most useful in face-to-face and hybrid courses, making good use of student time outside of the classroom, and enhancing their time in the classroom.

What does it look like in practice?

Prior to class—maybe a few days or maybe several hours—faculty post a series of questions related to the current assignment or to new information to be presented in the next class lecture. One source below suggests that the questions “explore students' prior knowledge and beliefs about the material to be covered.” Faculty then choose selections from the responses to incorporate into class discussion, inviting more discussion. The direction of the class is influenced by students' pre-class responses; students will be more likely to join in a discussion that is responsive to their needs, and because they have thought in advance about the issues.

How does such a method fit into my course?

- Blackboard is the perfect space in which to post questions for JiTT. The questions could be posted in Discussion Board Forums, and responses easily collected using the DB *collect* feature.
- Faculty will need to allow time in the process to review student responses and decide how to incorporate them into the class.
- Benefits for faculty:
- Faculty receive feedback on a regular basis on class material and on the progress of student learning.
- Benefits for students:
- Students become more involved in learning the class content as the class becomes more learner-centered.

Further Reading:

Just in Time Teaching. Web presentation. Carleton College. Recommended: the MERLOT ELIXR case study at the bottom of the page. <http://serc.carleton.edu/introgeo/justintime/index.html>

Novak, Gregor. What is Just-in-Time Teaching? Web presentation. Indiana U-Purdue U. <http://webphysics.iupui.edu/jitt/what.html> [Main site: <http://www.jitt.org>]. Novak created the JiTT method.