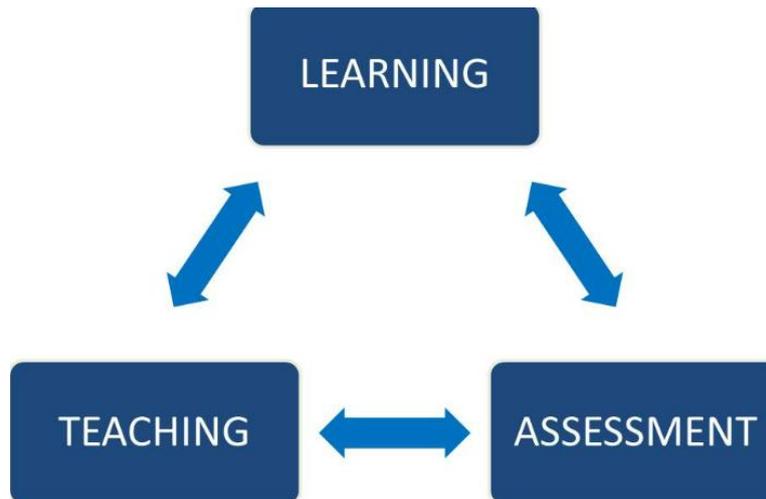


## Key Elements of Learning and Teaching in Higher Education

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*Learning and Teaching are fundamental considerations for non-research institutions - in particular. L and T forms the very basis for operations and needs to be supported and endorsed consistently. Many institutions have established learning and teaching committees that specifically focus on a range of related issues/practices and procedures.*

### Curriculum Design

A well-structured curriculum that aligns learning outcomes with course content, assessment methods, and graduate attributes is fundamental to success – not to mention profile. The design and structure of the curriculum, in many ways, is fundamental to the success of a course – and the level of student involvement/engagement. Most institutions monitor (and refresh) their *constructive alignment* that highlights the relationships between content, outcomes and assessment.

## **Student Engagement**

Active learning strategies, such as group work, discussions, and hands-on activities, to foster student participation and motivation. The ongoing engagement of students is critical. Diversity in approach is important – and the variation of strategies is probably the key to success in terms of student engagement.

## **Effective Teaching Methods**

Diverse and inclusive teaching approaches, including lectures, tutorials, online learning, and practical experiences. Diversity is the key. There has been significant development in this space – largely a result of the COVID-19 pandemic where institutions across the country (across the world for that matter) were required to go online and rethink their tired approach to F2F learning. As a consequence of this – hybrid teaching has become popular – that is a mix mode of delivery.

## **Assessment and Feedback**

Transparent, fair, and varied assessment methods, along with timely and constructive feedback to support student development. Assessment variation (summative and formative) is vital and so too is ongoing feedback. This feedback can be measured with the aid of SFUs.

## **Supportive Learning Environment**

An environment that encourages collaboration, critical thinking, and academic integrity, while providing access to resources and support services. A complex matter – but worthy of consideration and focus.

## **Professional Development**

Ongoing training and support for educators to improve pedagogical skills and stay updated with educational innovations. The importance of scholarship and professional development cannot be underestimated – they are in fact critical to currency and relevance.

## **Use of Technology**

Integration of digital tools and platforms to enhance learning experiences and accessibility. Our environment has changed drastically - and it is essential that we embrace as much technology as feasible.

## **Inclusivity and Equity**

Ensuring that teaching practices accommodate diverse student backgrounds and learning needs. This has much to do about the diversity of learning and teaching styles and practices.

*Quality learning and teaching are fundamental to institutional success. With these eight foci in mind - it is both possible and feasible to create a satisfying and productive classroom environment that encourages student participation and produces quality outcomes.*

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