



**MTU**

Ollscoil Teicneolaíochta na Mumhan  
Munster Technological University

# Getting started with groupwork

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**Academic  
Success**  
— Coaching —



**ACADEMIC  
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# In this video:

## Groupwork:

- Why?
- What?
- How?

Try this set of short exercises with your project group!

# Why?

- What do you think are the key reasons why groupwork is assigned as part of your course?
- Which skills or competences would an effective group worker demonstrate, in your view?
- Pause and note!

# Here are **some** possibilities:

- Communication
- Real-time, regular collaboration
- Negotiation and compromise
- Project management (timeline, resources, workload, planning, IT skills)
- Constructive feedback
- Articulate ideas clearly
- Justify positions with reasons
- Research and resource-sharing
- Discover new perspectives
- Develop a project through dialogue
- Problem-solving
- Presentation and reporting skills
- Work on complex scenarios, issues or problems

# What?

Group A have a group presentation to prepare for week 8. They divide their group task into five separate pieces of work. Each group member takes responsibility for one area. They work separately and ‘assemble’ their individual findings into a group presentation one day before they are due to present their work.

- Critique group A’s process: are they on the right path?
- Will the members of group A have a good opportunity to demonstrate the groupwork competencies you have brainstormed?

# Try it out!

- Micro-groupwork!
- 3 minutes, 3 actions.
- Agree – collaboratively – on three key actions groups can take to ensure effective groupwork that demonstrates groupwork competences!

# How?

## Brainstorm

How can the group:

- manage responsibility for tasks & sub-tasks effectively?
- keep track of what is completed and what is yet to do?
- make sure everyone is ‘in the loop’ at all times?

# Possibilities

## **MTU Student Google Drive for:**

- sharing documents and research;
- starting and maintaining a log of tasks & task progress.

## **Regular meetings to:**

- ensure all group members are up to date on developments;
- share and debate ideas, develop workplan and offer and receive feedback.



# How?

How could effective groupwork be organised?

When making your project log:

- Work to be done **x** priorities **x** available time.
- Tools and hacks for keeping the group on track.



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## Thank You!

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