

Advances in humanities and social science teaching methodologies

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Agenda

- ① U.S. Crises in Liberal Arts and Legal Education
- 2) Which are biggest challenges at Universidad de los Andes?
- 3 Carousel brainstorm: Ways to address these challenges
- (4) Three University of Michigan initiatives to address challenges



Learning Objectives

- ① Identify key teaching and learning challenges and "work arounds"
- ②Gain practice in three active learning techniques used in liberal arts classrooms:
 - continuum walk
 - carousel brainstorm
 - application cards

CENTER FOR RESEARCH ON LEARNING & TEACHING (CRLT) Continuum of Active Learning Strategies Complex Real-World Flipped Classrooms Groups and Teams Carousel Brainstorming Large-Group Discussion Continuum Walk Think-Pair-Share (with or Interactive Lecture Minute Paper or Application Card Self-assessment Simple Clarification pause This is a spectrum of some active learning activities arranged by complexity and classroom time commitment

Crises in Liberal Arts

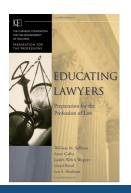


- Faculty expectations are too low for students
- Assignments do not meaningfully promote deep learning





Crises in Legal Education



- Ethics education is minimal
- Competitive classroom climate does not encourage teamwork
- Real-world training is marginalized



First-Year Law School Enrollment Declines in the U.S. 60,000 40,000 20,000 10,000 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013





(3) Carousel Brainstorm

- 1. Your team has 5 min. to write as many answers to the question as you can. Then pass your sheet to the RIGHT.
- 2. When you receive sheet #2, read the responses from the last group, and add as many as you can. Pass the sheet to the RIGHT.
- 3. When you receive the sheet #3, read the responses from both groups, and add as many as you can. Return the sheet to the original group.
- 4. Review all answers on your original sheet and choose the **ONE BEST ANSWER.**



Review all answers on your original color sheet and choose the **ONE BEST ANSWER**.

4 University of Michigan Initiatives to Address Challenges

- A. Early practical experience for Law School students
- B. Graduate student certificate in digital humanities
- C. Hevruta in undergraduate English class



Traditional Law School Curriculum

Year One

- Doctrinal Courses, such as Civil Procedure, Contracts, Criminal Law, Constitutional Law
- Writing: Legal Practice I & II
- A little application: Legal Practice Skills (1 credit)

Years Two & Three:

- Upper-level doctrinal courses
- Applied classes (e.g., write motions)
- · Clinics (e.g., representing clients)
- Simulations (e.g., negotiations)



Typical Curricula

- · Early years:
 - "Learning about"
 - Content
- · Later years:
 - "Learning to be"
 - Practicing the methods of the discipline



John Seely Brown and Richard P. Adler, "Minds on Fire: Open Education, the Long Tail, and Learning 2.0," EDUCAUSE Review, vol. 43, no. 1 (January/February



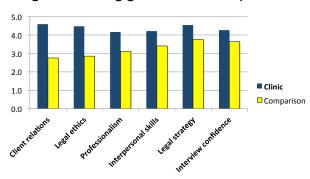
University of Michigan Law School Initiatives



- (1)"Labs": Students gain early practical experience, which is tightly integrated with their legal theory courses.
- (2) Clinic: Students gain early experience representing real clients.

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Early clinic participants report significantly higher learning gains from 1L experience



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Scale is 1-5, 1=Strongly Disagree/5=Strongly Agree that law school helped improve skill.¹⁶

(2) Certificate in digital humanities





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Hevruta evaluation

Survey (74% response rate) + focus group of 10 students

- "Responsibility was the most important thing I took from this course, in a different sense than I knew it before."
- "Left to my own devices, I probably would have skipped a lot of the readings and missed out on some material, but since I was responsible to my hevruta partner, I had to keep up enough to be able to have a good discussion."



Prof. Ralph Williams, English

Bergom, I., Wright, M.C., Brown, M.K., & Brooks, M. (2011). Promoting college student development through collaborative learning: A case study of *hevruta*. *About Campus*, 15(6): 19-25.



- 1 U.S. Crises in Liberal Arts and Legal Education
- Which are biggest challenges at Universidad de los Andes?
- 3 Carousel brainstorm: Ways to address these challenges
- 4 Three University of Michigan initiatives to address challenges
- A. Early practical experience for Law School students Key principle: Practice the content
- B. Graduate student certificate in digital humanities Key principle: Link research and teaching
- C. Hevruta in undergraduate English class
 Key principle: Shift student motivation from grades

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Application Card

What is one idea from the workshop today that you could use or adapt in your own classroom?

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