**Groupwork workshop**

This can work as follows:

* Up to 1 hour: To write script and film responses
* 1.5 hours: Provide full session with feedback
* 2 hours: Provide full session with flexibility and reshoots

**Learning Outcomes:**

* To practice groupwork skills
* To understand common reasons why groupwork projects fail
* To develop employability competencies
* To learn filming and editing techniques

**Preparation for session:**

Note that some technical knowledge will be required in terms of filming and editing. This activity works well as a joint session with a Learning Technologist or someone in a similar role.

Make sure you have the following:

* Link to Genial.ly and MS Word accessible version of ‘Common reasons why groupwork fails’: Make accessible Word document (below) available on VLE module Groupwork (genial.ly)
* Link to example Kaltura interactive video e.g. Deloittes

https://corp.kaltura.com/video-content-management-system/kaltura-interactive-video-paths/

* Have the activity scenario sheets ready

**Getting started:**

1. Welcome everyone, introductions
2. This is a session on groupwork and practicing team skills whilst applying digital skills through filming and editing content
3. Ask tables / groups to discuss their own group experiences – what worked or didn’t
4. Talk through common barriers to groupwork (given below).
5. Explain the task – highlight that it is a safe space to have fun and share ideas!
6. Give out sheets, create a narrative with characters around their scenario.

**Allocate:**

* Around 20 minutes to write scenario and establish roles. Check in occasionally on conversations and clarify if needed
* Around 20 minutes to film four 30 second clips with a phone camera. Encourage groups to leave the room but be available for questions. This time limitation helps to maintain focus.
* Around 20 minutes for peer feedback with technical and content context.

At the end, bring the discussion back to groupwork as a skill and explore digital skills applied too. Discuss the expectation of groupwork in industry as appropriate

**Plain text: Common reasons why groupwork fails:**

Groupwork tasks offer the chance to develop a range of strengths, some of which are quite different to previous assignments. Here are a few examples to consider which will be discussed further below:

* Communication
* Obstacles
* New skills
* Time
* New perspectives
* Reflection

**Communication**

One of the most common reasons that groupwork fails is a lack of effective communication. Understanding other people’s perspectives can help here.

Professional

Honesty

Prioritise

ASAP

Ask for help

Open and upfront

**Obstacles**

There are always obstacles with groupwork. The key to overcoming them is often communication. Here are some examples, can you think of any practical solutions?

Other group members

Cultural differences

Time

Emotion

Understanding the task

Planning

**New Skills**

Through the process of working as a group there will be opportunities to practise and master new skills – can you think of any practical examples of where this might happen?

Technological

Research

Empathy

Time Management

Leadership

Writing

**Time**

A lack of planning at the start of the process can leave team members with a lack of direction. It is important to meet at the start of the process and establish everyone’s roles and time availability.

Other deadlines

Editing

Jobs, chores etc.

Planning

Group mates’ output

Group meetings

**New Perspectives**

People approach groupwork in different ways. In order to succeed, everyone in the team needs to be productive and feel valued. Here are some perspectives it might be useful to consider:

Group mate

Own

Industry

Other group

Literature

Tutor

**Reflection**

Developing the skill of groupwork is key at university and in industry. It is important to reflect and understand why elements worked or didn’t in order to avoid repeating the same mistakes.

Strengths

Limitations

Significance

Impact

How effective?

Relevance to career