

Case Based Learning

What is Case Based Learning?

Case-based learning is an instructional strategy in which students work collaboratively in small groups (under the guidance of a tutor) to examine a case (a complex situation that mirrors the real-world). Originally introduced into the business curriculum by Harvard University, it is now an educational format used in programs around the world.

Educational Value

- Increased retention of information.
- Development of an integrated knowledge base (theory into practice).
- Increased learner motivation.
- Development of critical thinking skills.

Examples of Classroom Application

- The Case method. Harvard Business School
<http://www.hbs.edu/case/index.html>

Getting Started

Contact the CID at cid@vcc.ca. An IA can help you determine if PBL is right for your class and explain how to plan a lesson using Case- based Learning.

More Information

Educational:

- Aamodt, A. & Plaza, E. (1994) Case-Based Reasoning: Foundational Issues, Methodological Variations, and System Approaches. *AI Communications*, 7 (1) , pp 39-59. http://www.idi.ntnu.no/emner/it3704/lectures/papers/Aamodt_1994_Case.pdf

References:

- Althoff, K-D., Aamodt, A. (1996). Relating Case-Based Problem Solving and Learning Methods to Task and Domain Characteristics: Towards an Analytic Framework. <http://citeseerx.ist.psu.edu/viewdoc/summary?doi=10.1.1.146.3657>