

Lectures

Things to consider:

When preparing:

- Sit-in on lectures given by other lecturers in your department – see what does and doesn't work first hand;
- Check how many students you will have, where the lecture theatre is, what facilities it has, how the projector works etc.;
- If you're using PowerPoint print out your slides; should the projector fail you'll be prompted for what to say!
- Talk to other lecturers for advice. Ask a lecturer to sit in on one of your lectures early on;
- Find out about the students, what is their previous experience etc.;
- Prepare information for the VLE and upload content before the lecture;
- Make handouts to support your lecture. These can take many forms; again look at what colleagues produce for ideas - consider leaving space for students to write down ideas, so they have 'ownership' of the handout; and
- Consider setting up a text wall and ask students to text questions at set times during lectures. Avoids any embarrassment students may feel asking questions in front of large groups and gives you feedback as to the understanding of your students.

At the lecture:

- Check students can hear you and see the slides;
- Take enough handouts for the students and handouts from previous lectures; and
- Give students your contact details so they know when and how to get in touch outside the lecture if they have any questions.

Further information

Chalmers, C. and Green, C. (2011) **Using mobile phones to encourage interaction in large lectures.** Effective Learning in the Biosciences conference proceedings. John McIntyre Centre, Edinburgh. www.bioscience.heacademy.ac.uk/bioconf/index.aspx

McClellan, S., Hagan, P. and Morgan, J. (2010) **Text Messaging for Student Communication and Voting.** *Bioscience Education* 16 www.bioscience.heacademy.ac.uk/journal/vol16/beej-16-4.aspx

Perkins, J., Marston, P. and Preston, S. (2008) **Preparing to Teach – Don't Forget The Student Response System.** *Bioscience Bulletin* 23, p3. www.bioscience.heacademy.ac.uk/ftp/newsletters/bulletin23.pdf

Race, P. and Brown, S. (2002) **Lecturing: a practical guide.** London, Kogan Page.

Some of the information in *Lecturing: a practical guide* can be found in **Smarter Lectures**, a collection of things for both you and your students to do in lectures. <http://phil-race.co.uk/downloads>

Willmott, C. (2006) **Never again shout, "that WOULD have been useful for my teaching!" at the TV.** *Bioscience Education* 7. www.bioscience.heacademy.ac.uk/journal/vol7/beej-7-C1.aspx An interesting account of the tools available to find suitable broadcasts for use in lectures.

UK Centre for Bioscience **ImageBank.** A collection of over 7000 copyright-cleared images and diagrams for use in bioscience teaching and learning. www.bioscience.heacademy.ac.uk/imagebank/

