

# TIPS FOR ADAPTING A CURRICULUM FOR GROUP SIZE

## SHARING PERSONAL EXPERIENCES

Sharing personal experiences can be a great way for participants to process what they are learning. In a small group this is very manageable, but if your group is larger it can be time consuming and cumbersome. Participants may be uncomfortable sharing anything personal in front of a larger group. Adapt for larger classes by asking each participant to share with the person or persons sitting next to them. This can be done in an online class through breakout rooms.

## GROUP DISCUSSION

Group discussion is ideal for smaller classes but can be harder in a larger group. Some participants will be reluctant to contribute in a large group setting and conversation may be limited to a few ideas. Consider breaking a large class into smaller groups (online or in-person) to discuss the topic or question. Then have each group report back to the larger group.

## ENCOURAGE EVERYONE TO SHARE

Some participants are less likely to contribute their ideas in a very large (or a very small) group. Consider asking people to share thoughts in writing by handing out post-it notes (in-person), or using a digital posting board (online) for participants to share thought and ideas.

## PROMOTE INTERACTION

Be sure to find ways to make new participants feel welcome. This is important if the group is small and most people already know each other, but it is also important in large classes. Try mixing up the breakout groups each time so participants get to know more members of the class.

## GROUP ACTIVITIES AND ASSIGNMENTS

Group activities and assignments can be difficult to manage if your class is larger or smaller than the intended group size.

### For large classes:

- Consider splitting the group up into smaller sections and have each section do the same activity simultaneously (online or in-person).
- If the curriculum includes multiple activities, set up stations for each activity (in-person) and have sections rotate through the stations.
- Consider dividing an assignment into parts and have each section of the class do one part of the activity and then share with the larger group.

### For small classes:

- Instead of completing assignments in breakout groups, consider staying together working on the assignment as a class.
- If the curriculum calls for dividing an assignment into smaller parts, try choosing one or two of the parts to complete as a class.