

C.L.E.A.R. Directions Interdisciplinary Collaboration & Learning Community Resources

There are three types of learning communities:

- Student Cohorts/Integrative Seminar where a small group of students enroll in larger classes that faculty do not coordinate together;
- Linked Courses/Course Clusters, where two or more classes are linked thematically or by content and are taken by the same group of students. In this approach, all involved faculty plan the program collaboratively; and
- Coordinated Study where faculty members team teach and the course work is embedded in an integrated program of study.

There are a variety of approaches used to build learning communities—all are intended to restructure the students' time, credit, and learning experiences to build community among students, between students and faculty and among faculty members and disciplines.

Learning Community Web sites:

- [A Coalition for Self-Learning](#)
- [Austin Community College](#)
- [Maricopa Community Colleges](#)
- [National Staff Development Council](#)
- [The Washington Center](#)

Additional Resources:

- Adams, Maurianne, "Cultural Inclusion in the American College Classroom," Teaching for Diversity, (San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass, 1992),
- Astin, A.W., What Matters in College: Four Critical Years Revisited, (San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 1993)
- Bailey, Rick, "Exploring Learning Communities in the Two-Year College (or How I Learned to Love the Vector)," Techniques, Vol. 74 no.5 May 1999
- Banks, James A., Multiethnic Education: Theory and Practice, (Boston, MA: Allyn and Bacon, 1994).
- Bielczyc, Katerine, and Collins, Allan, "Learning Communities in Classrooms: Advancing

Knowledge for a Lifetime," NASSP Bulletin Vol. 83 no.604 February 1999

- Collison, M., "'Learning Communities' for All," The Chronicle of Higher Education, 1993
- Heller, R., "Learning Communities: What Does the Research Show?" AAC&U Peer Review, 1998.
- Kadel, S., Russo, P. and Tinto, V., "Learning Communities and Student Involvement in the Community College," In J. Gardner and J. Hankin, eds., Promoting New Student Success in Community Colleges (Columbia, South Carolina: National Resource Center for the Freshman Year Experience, The University of South Carolina, 1995).