

## ***Scenario: Activating learning***

### **Course**

The course is entitled *A History of the Reformation in Germany* and you are responsible for running a seminar every week.

### **Aims**

At the end of this seminar, your students should have (1) developed a specific skill that is necessary for the study of your subject and (2) deepened their understanding of the topic.

### **Conditions**

You must address a number of conditions when planning the class:

- There are 20 students in the class;
- All of the students have studied this at some point in the past, so they have a basic level of knowledge;
- Most of them have read the article you set last week in preparation for the class;
- You have 45 minutes for the active learning element of the class, the other 45 minutes were taken up with a mini-lecture from you and course administration.

### **Things to think about when planning the class:**

- What skill will you be aiming to develop? What activity (/activities) will help the students to practice this skill?
- How will you check and deepen their understanding of the topic?

### **QUESTIONS TO HELP YOU THINK ABOUT HOW TO ACHIEVE THESE AIMS:**

- What will you ask the students to do (you can have more than one activity if you want)? How will they do it?
- How will you integrate the activity (/activities) with (a) the 'homework' reading and (b) lecture?
- How long will the activities take (be realistic, they usually take longer than you think)?
- What will you be doing if the students are working independently?
- How will you enable those who didn't do the reading to participate in class?

### **What I want you to have at the end of this activity:**

- A (rough) poster summarising your plan, including details of what you and the students will be doing, and when (use the back of this sheet to make some notes).
- You don't have to think about all of the questions above, but should address some of them and particularly those relating to the desired aims of the class.
- To be ready to explain your response to this task back to the rest of the group.
- You have 20 minutes for this activity and will have upto 5 minutes to explain what you've come up with as a group.