

# Group Work as a Means of Developing Graduate Attributes at Different Levels of Study

Cornelia Junge

University of Abertay Dundee



#### The Graduate Attributes







GROUP WORK



DETERMINED CREATORS



AMBITIOUS ENQUIRERS



## Case: EC0903A (3rd Year)

Task

- 3,000 word joint work, 40% of module grade
- Groups of 3-4 students

Process

- Choice of 4-5 case studies
- Weekly meetings for 7 weeks, submission in week 8

Grade

- 1 grade for group's joint submission
- Peer-marking element within group

Result

- Above-average content [and grades]
- High average level of creativity



## The Graduate Attributes: 3rd Year

CONFIDENT
THINKERS



DETERMINED CREATORS

**AMBITIOUS ENQUIRERS** 



## Case: EC0706A (1st Year)

Task

- 1,000 words individual CW, 40% of overall grade
- Groups of 4-5 students for continuous "feedback"

Process

- Free choice of topic within a wide "theme"
- Weekly meetings for 7 weeks + individual support

Grade

- Individual grade for coursework
- Short reflection on group process element

Result

- Above-average content [and grades]
- High average level of creativity



### The Graduate Attributes: 1st Year

CONFIDENT
THINKERS



DETERMINED CREATORS





## Case: EC1007A (4th Year)

Task

- Individual presentation, 20% of overall grade
- Groups of 3-5 students to develop work together

Process

- Free choice of topic within a wide "theme"
- Self-organised group meetings, on request with tutor

Grade

- Individual grade for presentation [4<sup>th</sup> year]
- Short reflection on group process in feedback meeting

Result

- Above-average content [and grades]
- High standard of presentation skills



## The Graduate Attributes: 4th Year

CONFIDENT
THINKERS



DETERMINED CREATORS





## **Concluding Remarks**

- This is not a statistically robust study...
  - Based on hunches, anecdotal evidence and untested questionnaires
- Graduate Attributes' relative weight varies
  - Across stages
  - But also within one mode of assessment across stages
- Group Work is only partly about "flexible collaboration"; it can be far richer



## Thank you.

Questions?

