



**Learning Design patterns**  
**Centre for the Advancement of University Teaching**  
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| <b>Pattern name</b>                  | Engaging first time users in online learning   |
| <b>Context</b>                       | Exclusively online learning contexts   |
| <b>Problem</b>                       | Students without experience of online learning may not be prepared to engage in online learning.   |
| <b>Solution</b>                      | <p>In Athena, set up an initial discussion with the students in smaller groups where they address a number of questions, such as:</p> <p>How do we engage with each other in online settings?</p> <p>How do we make the online environment one that is conducive to learning?</p> <p>What makes the online environment different that the physical learning environment, what are the challenges and how do we address them?</p> |
| <b>Consequences and implications</b> | By engaging the students in a discussion about how to engage in online learning the students may be better prepared for online course.   |
| <b>System</b>                        | Athena (itslearning.com)   |
| <b>Miscellaneous</b>                 | References:<br>Salmon, G. (2013). <i>E-tivities: The key to active online learning</i> . Routledge.  |
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