

## Learning Design patterns

Centre for the advancement for university teaching

## su.se/ceul

Pattern name	Pair work
Context	To get all students in your class to be active, collaborate and participate in discussions, you need to split them into groups. Pair work can also be defined as group work with two group members. This pattern is suitable for both small and large courses.
Problem	Students will work in pairs and will do so online, which means they will need a form of technical support. We want to avoid forcing students to use systems that are advertised because it will make their data available for commercial databases. Instead, we want to offer a SU-based system that is designed specifically for use in education and the way it handles personal data is regulated and safe.
Solution	To use Athena, one of the students should create a "Project" under the tab "Groups" and then invite the other student. This way, students can form pairs on their own or get instructed by you on whom they should pair up with. To do this, you won't need to create a group manually or change any settings in Athena. You won't, however, have access to what students do in their project space. For you to get the access, students have to invite you in their project. You get notified of an invitation via a message in Athena. In projects, discussion forum can be used along with other tools as well as files can be shared.
Consequences and implications	Should your students want to write synchronously – that is, simultaneously in the same document – they would need to use an external system because in Athena Word- and Excel Online are only available in "Courses", not in "Project".
System	Athena
Miscellaneous	If a student doesn't reply to an invitation, it is impossible to send a new one to him. However, it is possible to send a regular message as a reminder. The system administrator has access to all projects created by students.
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