



Ten-Two

The Ten-Two teaching method, sometimes called “Chunk and Chew,” is an approach to teaching that breaks up every 10 minutes of lecture with 2 minutes of small group discussion. The overall approach can be effective when introducing new, difficult concepts in that it allows space for students to identify gaps in understanding or questions that they have in small peer groups rather than raising their hands in front of an entire class. It also allows students who have an easier time grasping the issue to share their understanding of a given issue with peer students in a new way that may be more effective and relevant.

Experiential learning is generally suspicious and reactive to lecture based approaches to teaching in which students passively receive and memorize information from a single instructor. However, there is also a growing recognition that blended learning, a term to describe the necessity of teaching using multiple methods to engage different learning styles, is an effective means to learning. In this way lectures can have an important role to play in teaching and learning to a particular learning style. The Ten-Two strategy is a helpful approach to lecturing in that it creates space for students to remain engaged, ask questions, and participate in learning rather than passively memorizing information or disengaging from the material.

The Ten-Two strategy works well in combination with other teaching methods. For example using a Think-Pair-Share approach to the small group discussions may be a helpful way of structuring the small group discussions. This requires flexibility with timing and adjustments to be made to the actual time allotments.
