

Group presentation (20 minutes) replaced with written task (2,500 words)

York St John University, Media



Original assessment:

Students work as part of a group to produce an individually marked group presentation, equivalent to 2,500 words.

Alternative assessment:

The full alternative assessment brief is appended below.

In summary, the student is required to produce a 2,000 word plan detailing how they would plan a presentation for a 'virtual' group. This must include information on sources and theoretical concepts referenced, how the presentation would be divided amongst the group, and audio-visual aids used. The plan must include a conclusion and full bibliography.

Additionally, the written submission also requires a 500 word reflection on the benefits and challenges of group presentations.

Reflection: Academic tutor

We have used this type of alternative assessment for a great many years, offering it to students in any modules with group presentations who were unable to undertake the original assessment method. Sometimes this has been because the students experiences serious anxiety, and sometimes simply because they could not take part (illness, family or other attendance problems).

Obviously, failing the student for something which may not be their fault is in nobody's interest.

Outcome:

My experience in using this alternative assessment is that the student almost always gets a mark completely in line with their academic profile.

Alternative Assessment

The original assessment required you to work co-operatively as part of a group and produce an 'individually marked group presentation equivalent to 2,500 words' assessing the following Learning Outcomes:

[insert relevant Learning Outcomes here]

This alternative assignment requires you to plan a presentation for a 'virtual' group

You may choose one of the questions attached at the end of this sheet

For this assessment you must produce a presentation plan of approximately 2,000 words that addresses the assignment in the following ways:

- How might the assignment be divided into sections so that a group of four students could present equal amounts of work in a 20 minute presentation?
- What media texts, if any, (examples...) could be used to illustrate your points?
- What theoretical concepts (ideas from the essential reading) would be incorporated (and how) in order to support your ideas?
- How would you use any Essential Reading in your 'presentation'?
- What audio-visual aids (OHP, PowerPoint, Prezi, YouTube, Flip chart, sound, video etc) would help in the presentation of the material and how, specifically, would they be used?

Your plan needs to include a title page, a summary of your presentation with sub-headings for each section, a separate summary that illustrates your conclusions and a relevant bibliography.

In addition to this you need to attach a separate reflection of approximately 500 words explaining what you think are the benefits of group presentations including some discussion of the problems which groups face and how they might be addressed.

