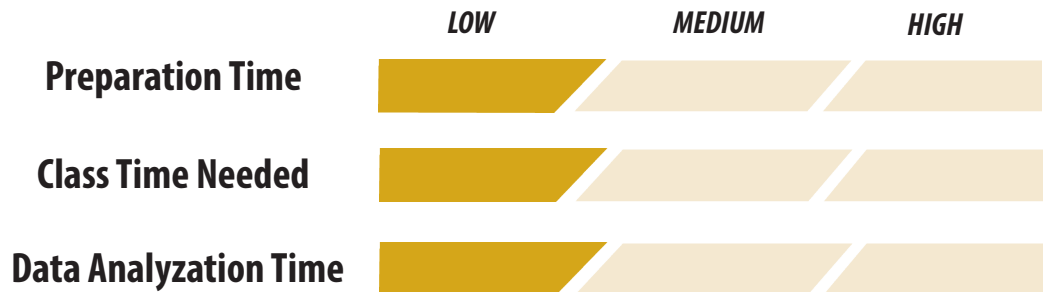


Muddiest Point

Muddiest point is a classroom assessment technique (C.A.T.) that gives students opportunities to point out what they are most confused about and clearly explain what is muddy.



Muddiest Point at a Glance



Setting up Muddiest Points

- Create a prompt starting with “What is the muddiest point in _____?” and fill in the blank for the specific topic or idea you want students to explain.
- Decide how you want to collect the data. Options include but are not limited to:
 - Having students write down their answer on a blank sheet of *their own paper*
 - Providing students with a piece of paper that already has a prompt on it
 - Asking students to respond to a prompt using Hotseat



Processing the Responses

- First, it is recommended that you quickly read through at least half of the responses, looking for common themes.
- Next, sort them into piles containing groups of related muddy points and a one “catch-all” pile made up of “one-of-a-kind-responses.”

References

Angelo, T. A. & Cross, P. K. (1993). *Classroom assessment techniques: A handbook for college teachers*. Jossey Bass: San Francisco, CA.