Across the country, college faculty in science, mathematics, engineering and technology (SMET) are bringing a new approach to the way they teach their courses. This approach uses a variety of names—collaborative learning, cooperative learning, active learning, small group learning, problem-based learning—but all the names have one word in common: **LEARNING**.

### COLLABORATIVE LEARNING

- Actively engages students in their own learning process
- Encourages critical thinking and helps students retain what they’ve learned
- Introduces students to true scientific practice
- Creates cultural and gender diversity through supportive learning environments
- Promotes life-long science literacy

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**Teaching science and math at the college level today isn’t quite what it used to be.**

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**WHO WE ARE**

The NISE College Level One Team, based at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and funded by the National Science Foundation, is a nationwide community of post-secondary science, mathematics, engineering and technology (SMET) faculty, education researchers, disseminators, students, and fellows.

**OUR MISSION**

- To improve SMET students’ learning experiences and critical thinking skills
- To engage and retain a growing and diverse student population in SMET disciplines
- To improve science and mathematics literacy for all college students

Introductory college science and mathematics courses serve as curriculum “pressure points” that can strongly influence students’ career choices and science literacy. The NISE College Level One Team fosters supportive college SMET learning environments in which all students participate, learn what scientists and engineers do, and develop a lifelong appreciation for science and mathematics.

For more information:

**NISE College Level One Team**

1025 W. Johnson St., Suite 750 • Madison, WI 53706

恭敬/263-4230 • Fax R/262-1429

niseinfo@mail.madison.wisc.edu

http://www.wcer.wisc.edu/nise/cl1