UK 101 STUDY GROUPS LESSON PLAN
(Approximately 15 minutes; offer early in semester)

Introduction
Ask class: Why is structure important to have in a study group or a team project? Helps group stay on task or topic, so better use of time; conversation and discussion is more effective.

Ask class: What is the difference between effective and ineffective conversation or discussion? Effective goes deeper than just saying what you've memorized. To be effective, a student synthesizes the material or compares and contrasts it. This type of thinking helps you learn on a deeper level. (Instructor could show Bloom's taxonomy here.)

Small-Group Activity
- Divide students into six small groups and ask them to choose a spokesperson.
- Assign two groups topic I; two groups topic II, and the two final groups topic III.
- Give students 3 minutes to outline answers to questions.
- Ask spokesperson from each group to share answers.

I. What would you include on a study group agenda? What type of activities might be helpful to do during the student group meeting? (Share following example agenda items if they aren't mentioned by the students.)
   a. Set an agenda, time frame, and appropriate location for study group.
   b. Ask each member to come to study session prepared with their class and reading notes, and 4 or 5 potential test questions and outlined answers. Test each other by exchanging questions.
   c. Divide general topics or themes among group members and ask each member to come to session prepared to teach their topic.
   d. Use flashcards to review assigned sections.
   e. Compare notes to reinforce or clarify material and fill in gaps.
   f. Review old exams.
   g. Toward the end of the study time, conduct open-ended discussions of various class topics to promote understanding. It is very important to understand material instead of just memorizing it.

   NOTE: Share with students “ZoHo” app, an online task manager that is great for team projects or study groups.

II. Why are study groups helpful?
   a. Provide different viewpoints & generate a broader variety of predicted test questions.
   b. Groups provide help if you don't understand something.
   c. Study groups help you avoid procrastination and remain focused.
   d. Research shows that study groups combined with individual study are very effective. Students who use both achieve higher grades.
   e. Can be fun and a way to develop friendships.

III. How do you form a study group?
   a. The best size of a study group is 3-4, but no more than 6.
   b. Approach students directly or advertise through social media.
   c. Find “good” students with similar goals. How do you know if someone is a “good student?” Attends all classes, takes notes, asks questions, sits in front, etc.
   d. Get together with your potential study group members a few days before the exam. Commit to only one study session at first. You will want to see how the group works together before making a longer commitment.
   e. Reserve a study room in Young Library or meet in The Hub of Young Library.