

IAMSE Manuals

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# A Step-by- Step Guide to Case-Based Collaborative Learning (CBCL)



# **IAMSE Manuals**

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# A Step-by-Step Guide to Case-Based Collaborative Learning (CBCL)

 Springer

  
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# Preface

Interviewer:

“For somebody who’s never been in a CBCL class, can you just describe what it is?”

Interviewee:

“A CBCL class is basically a time for you to engage actively with and immediately apply the material that you’ve prepared the night before to solve problems. The best way to describe it is that it’s very interactive learning. You’ll sit at a table of four people, in a classroom of 40 students. The general format will be that the faculty member will present a case or a problem for you to solve and then a number of questions to consider as you look at that case. Then you divide into your groups of four people and maybe talk for maybe 5–10 minutes depending on how hard the question is, come up with some ideas, and then you’ll be brought back together in a group of 40 at which point the faculty member will facilitate a broader conversation in which the different groups can share their ideas, their thoughts and their questions, or even points of confusion with the group as a whole. It’s interactive on kind of a broader scale - at the larger group level and then also at the smaller table level.”

Interviewer:

“Can you describe the best aspects of learning in this kind of way?”

Interviewee:

“I think it’s just getting to actually work with your classmates on a daily basis. Especially since so much of our class had worked before medical school and had been in this kind of collegial atmosphere where you’re working with colleagues and you’re talking with colleagues and you’re bouncing ideas off of colleagues, I would have found it a lot harder to revert back to more of a lecture setting where you are sitting with your peers and learning the same information but you’re not really getting to interact in a learning setting as intensely. For me I really loved that interaction of actually getting to know my classmates a lot better but also getting to try and simulate the workplace as much as you can in a classroom setting, I found really helpful and I think it has a lot of really good potential for team development.”