This handout will help you teach large classes effectively. For more help, please visit KOLT in SCI Z40.

- **How can I improve attendance in large classes?**
  - Try to interact with students and learn their names. Email students who often fail to attend.
  - Give students credit for in-class quizzes, activities and assignments.
  - Discuss potential exam questions in class.

- **How can I improve class participation in large classes?**
  - Credit participation toward the final grade.
  - Organize the class into small groups (3-5 students) that can work on focused questions and exercises.
  - Invite individual students or groups to lead discussion.
  - Call on individual students, even if you don't know their names.
  - Make sure all questions addressed to the students can be answered with some thought and current knowledge.

- **How can I teach students who have different abilities and learning preferences?**
  - Vary learning experiences through a range of teaching techniques, including audio-visual presentations, group discussions and kinesthetic activities. Kinesthetic activities allow students to move around the classroom and learn through hands-on participation. Such activities might include role plays, presentations and debates.
  - Use peer teaching activities in class.
  - Contact KOLT (ext. 1468) to see if tutoring is offered for your course.

- **How should I work with my TAs?**
  - Meet the TA at the beginning of the semester to discuss your needs and expectations.
  - Maintain close contact with the TA throughout the semester. Request ongoing feedback on student performance and the nature of the TA's interaction with the students.
  - Give your TA guidance on getting students involved in problem solving sessions.
  - Arrange practice PS or DS labs for your TA in order to provide interactive feedback.

Please consult the following articles for more information on teaching large classes:

- Penn State University's Schreyer Institute for Teaching Excellence. *Teaching Large Classes.* [http://www.schreyerinstitute.psu.edu/Tools/Large/](http://www.schreyerinstitute.psu.edu/Tools/Large/)
