Group Investigation

1. Topics and teams -- Topics for study are identified and students are placed in teams.
2. Planning -- Team members decide what sub-topics are to be investigated as well as the goals of their study and how the topics are to be studied.
3. Action -- Team members gather information, review it, analyze/evaluate it, and reach some conclusions.
4. Final Report Preparation -- Each team must prepare a summary activity. It may be in the form of a report, a briefing, etc., for the entire class. The teams, via representatives, must coordinate this activity.
5. Presentation -- Each team presents its findings to the class. Reduce “lecture/telling” by using role plays, panels, simulations, etc.
6. Assessment/Evaluation -- The purposes, methods, and means of evaluation can be negotiated collaboratively among the students and the instructor. This is usually a tremendous learning experience in itself.

Sharan and Hertz-Lazarowitz, 1980.