

## 3. Built-In Change & Uncertainty Management

• Adult frameworks often address career pivots and long-term transitions. We've adapted those same principles so learners can thrive amid course shifts, open-ended assignments, and exam pressures—matching each student with either more structured guidance or creative flexibility based on their comfort with ambiguity.

## 3. Selecting the APO Dimensions

There are **11 distinct** sub-factors in the APO that map how students respond to core work-style elements—structure, uncertainty, authority, and collaboration—and tie those responses directly to their academic and early-career choices. We used three main criteria to choose and shape these dimensions:

- Comfort with Change vs. Consistency: Measures how students handle ambiguity and shifting expectations, and whether they perform best in stable, predictable routines or in dynamic, flexible environments.
- Collaborative Energy vs. Independent Drive: Assesses a learner's need for group interaction—team brainstorming, peer feedback—versus their preference for solo focus, helping match students to the right project formats and study setups.
- Rule-Bound vs. Open-Ended Tasks: Evaluates whether students thrive under clear guidelines and step-by-step instructions or excel when given broad goals and creative freedom, guiding how assignments and activities should be structured for each individual.