

6th Annual Texas A&M

Assessment Conference

Putting Assessment To Work

Assessing the Use of Technology in Education: What's In Your Toolbox?

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Berry College

Planning

- Planning and Assessment
- Planning for Technology

Planning and Technology

Why Technology?

Appropriate assessment should be tied to the purpose of the technology initiative.

Why Technology?

- Student Demand
- Marketing
- Seat Time
- Anytime/Anywhere
- Educational Enhancement
- Other Reasons?

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Appropriate Assessment

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- Fantasy:
- $a + b = c$
- $a = \text{teaching}$, $b = \text{technology}$, $c = \text{learning}$
- Reality:
- $a + b + c + d + e + f \dots$
- discipline, teaching style, technology
proficiency, fit of application to task, desired
learning objectives...

Heather Stewart, Seton Hall University

Student Demand

- Surveys
- Focus Groups
- Network Statistics
- ?

Marketing

- Surveys
- Focus Groups
- Applicants/
- Applicant Characteristics
- ?

Seat Time

- Facility Usage Statistics
- Equivalency Studies
- Surveys
- Focus Groups
- ?

Anytime/Anywhere

- Equivalency Studies
- Surveys
- Direct Measures
- ?

Educational Enhancement

- Direct Measures/Tests
- Portfolios
- Self Reported Data
 - Locals Surveys
 - NSSE
- ?

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Tools and Resources

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A Good Theoretical Underpinning

Theoretical Framework

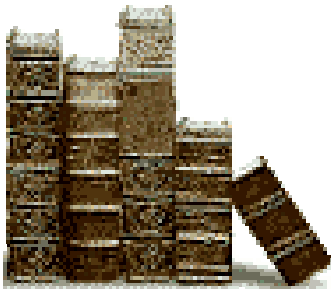
Chickering and Gamson's (1991) *Principles for Good Practice in Undergraduate Teaching*.

Ritter and Lemke (2000), point out that technology provides a “rich and efficient scaffolding to address” the seven principles.

Seven Principles

(Chickering and Gamson, 1989)

- Contact between student and professor
- Cooperation among students
- Active learning
- Prompt feedback
- Time on Task
- High Expectations
- Respect diversity in talents and learning



9 Principles of Good Practice for Assessing Student Learning

- **The assessment of student learning begins with educational values.**
- **Assessment is most effective when it reflects an understanding of learning as multidimensional, integrated, and revealed in performance over time.**
- **Assessment works best when the programs it seeks to improve have clear, explicitly stated purposes.**
- **Assessment requires attention to outcomes but also and equally to the experiences that lead to those outcomes.**
- **Assessment works best when it is ongoing, not episodic.**

9 Principles of Good Practice for Assessing Student Learning

- **Assessment fosters wider improvement when representatives from across the educational community are involved.**
- **Assessment makes a difference when it begins with issues of use and illuminates questions that people really care about.**
- **Assessment is most likely to lead to improvement when it is part of a larger set of conditions that promote change.**
- **Through assessment, educators meet responsibilities to students and to the public.**

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An Overview of Assessment Strategies

Classroom/Course Data	Objective Tests Essay Tests Embedded Questions and/or Assignment Classroom Assessment Techniques
Individual Projects/Performance Assessment	Written Products New Oral Presentations Graphic Tests and Displays Poster Presentations Structural/Situational Assessments
Summative Performance Assessment	Standardized Tests Locally-Developed Exams Capstone Experiences Internships Portfolios Assessment Center Methods (e.g, in-baskets) Case or Longitudinal Studies

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Self- Assessment/Reflection	Student Journals Self-Critiques
Collaboration	Research Teams Group Projects (e.g., written and oral) On-Line Group Activities (e.g., chat room traffic)
Interviews and Surveys	Satisfaction Measures (e.g., alumni, seniors, employers, etc.) Performance Reviews Exit Interviews External Examiner Interviews Focus Groups Follow-up Alumni Interviews
Archival Measures	Transcript Analysis Analysis of Transfer Patterns Syllabus Audit Demographic Data Analysis Alumni Database Library Use Statistics

Flashlight

The TLT Group's Flashlight Program provides a variety of assessment tools addressing the teacher, learner, classroom, program and infrastructure.

<http://www.tltgroup.org/programs/flashlight.html>

EDUCAUSE

EDUCAUSE offers a number of resources including articles on best practices in the use of technology in education and assessment. They also sponsor a national survey of technology infrastructure, funding and use that offers nationally comparative data and a peer-group tool.

<http://www.educause.edu/>

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