



# Aligning Assignments with Learning Objectives

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# Backward Design



# Learning Objectives

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Identify your  
learning objectives

- ❖ What should students be able to do when they complete your course?
- ❖ Be specific.

# Assessments

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Design suitable  
assessment  
strategies

- ❖ How will students show you that they've met the learning objectives?
- ❖ Be sure your assessments align with your learning objectives.



# Activities and Content

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Plan instructional activities; content

- ❖ Which activities will lead students to the desired results?
- ❖ Determine how you will present your content.



# Examples

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1. Discuss Earth's inner structure and its origin of heat (Oceanography – aligned with a short lecture and discussion).
2. Recognize parts of the brain, and locate given structures using appropriate anatomical terms (Psychology – aligned with interactive content that highlights parts of the brain and anatomical terms when moused over and a worksheet assignment).
3. Practice using a vivid memory to begin writing a story (Creative Writing – aligned with readings and the practice of writing through workshops).



# Implications for Course Design

