Aligning Assignments with Learning Objectives

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2022
Backward Design

- Learning Objectives
- Assessments
- Learning Activities
- Content
Learning Objectives

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

- How will students show you that they’ve met the learning objectives?
- Be sure your assessments align with your learning objectives.
Activities and Content

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

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

Course Goal

Learning Objective (1)
- Assessment (1)
- Assessment (2)

Learning Objective (2)
- Assessment (1)
- Assessment (2)
- Assessment (3)

Content

Activity