

Embedded Assessment: Supporting Faculty in the Design and Use of Effective Classroom Assignments

Assessment Institute
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Who We Are



Sandra Bailey
Oregon Tech



Kacy Lundstrom
Utah State Univ



Pat Hutchings
NILOA



Elise Martin
Middlesex CC

The Plan

- NILOA's work as context (Pat)
- Sharing Assignments (Elise)
- How one campus approach evolved (Sandra)
- Assignment Design Collaborations (Kacy)
- Planning for work on your campus
- Resources to draw on

But first...

Taking Stock

1. Assignments are mostly seen as “my work” and not shared.
2. Some colleagues share assignments in informal ways.
3. Support for work together on assignment design is provided through special workshops or a teaching center.
4. Evidence from assignments is valued in the institution's approach to student outcomes assessment.
5. Some other reality?

Context

National Institute for
Learning Outcomes Assessment
Making Learning Outcomes Usable & Transparent

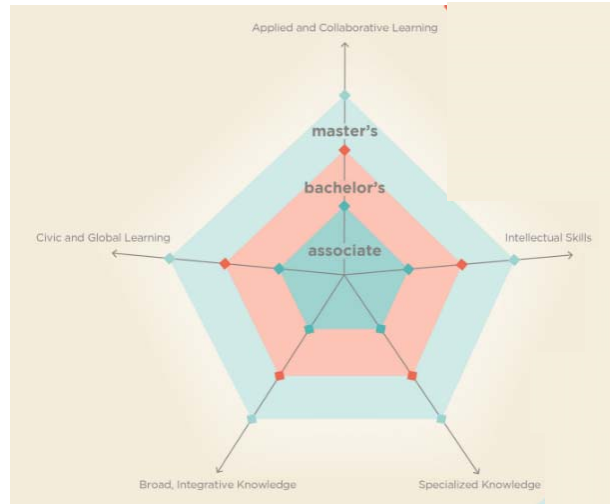
NILOA's mission is to discover and disseminate effective use of assessment data to strengthen undergraduate education and support institutions in their assessment efforts.

● SURVEYS ● WEB SCANS ● CASE STUDIES ● FOCUS GROUPS
● OCCASIONAL PAPERS ● WEBSITE ● RESOURCES ● NEWSLETTER ●
PRESENTATIONS ● TRANSPARENCY FRAMEWORK ● FEATURED WEBSITES
● ACCREDITATION RESOURCES ● ASSESSMENT EVENT CALENDAR ●
ASSESSMENT NEWS ● MEASURING QUALITY INVENTORY ● POLICY
ANALYSIS ● ENVIRONMENTAL SCAN ● DEGREE QUALIFICATIONS PROFILE ●
TUNING

www.learningoutcomesassessment.org

What is the DQP?

- A framework for what students should be expected to know and do in all majors
- In 5 areas of proficiency
- At 3 successive degree levels



NILOA as Harvester of DQP Work: What We've Learned

- Clarifying and aligning outcomes
- Curriculum mapping
- Facilitating transfer
- Rethinking assessment
- **A focus on assignments**



What We're Doing in Response

- Inviting faculty applications (with draft assignment)
- Bringing the group together for a day-long meeting
- Working in 5-6 person, facilitated "charrettes"

What's a "charrette"?

"Charrette" (Fr.) means a small cart. Because architecture students once deposited their assignments in it as the cart was rolled through the studio, architects now use the word to refer to **an intense creative effort in a limited time period.**



10

The Charrette Peer Review Protocol

1. Introduce your assignment to the group, setting up discussion—5 minutes
1. Facilitated Q&A, feedback—15-20 minutes
1. Written feedback—5 minutes

The DQP Assignment Library

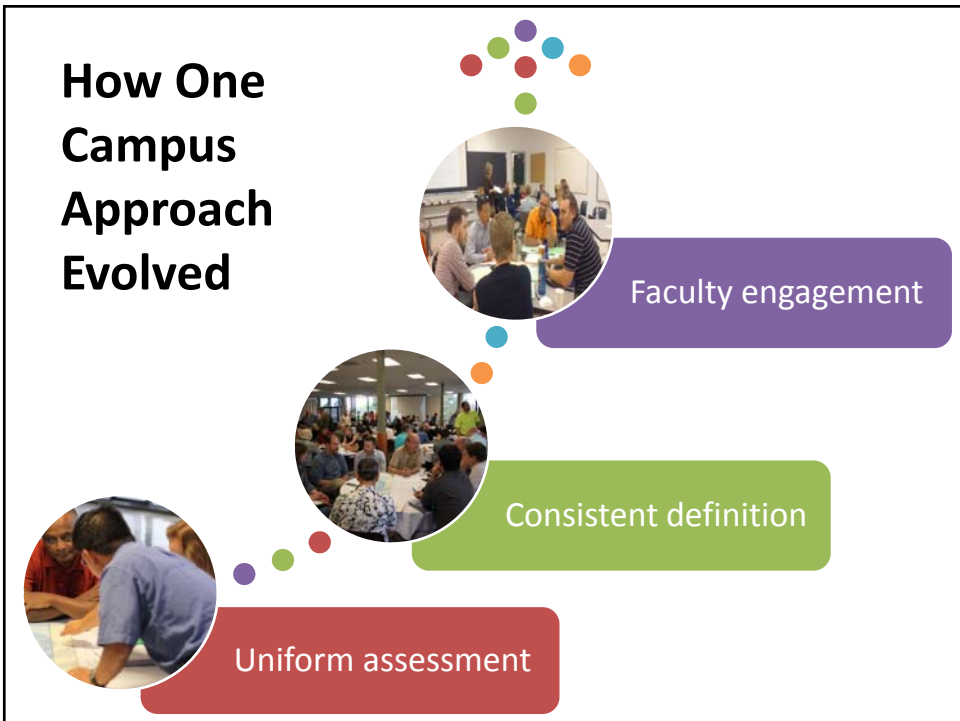
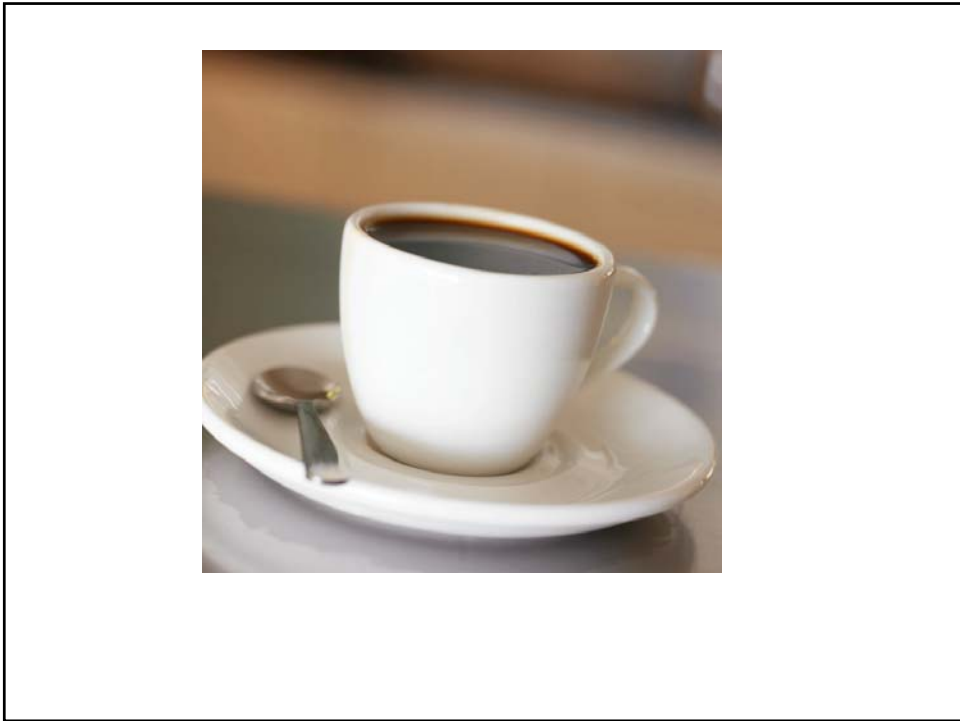
- 50-some assignments aligned with DQP proficiencies
- Contributed by faculty from a wide range of fields and institutional types
- Online, indexed, and searchable
- With scholarly citations
- www.assignmentlibrary.org

Sharing Assignments to Scaffold Learning



Sharing Assignments...

1. Raises lots of generative questions about teaching, learning, curriculum, students....
2. Creates a pedagogical trading zone
3. Invites connections that scaffold and integrate student learning across contexts (curric mapping)
4. Animates high-level outcomes
5. Supports equity-mindedness
6. Provides rich, authentic evidence to inform improvement
7. Makes visible and values the intellectual work that faculty do as teachers (the scholarship of T&L)
8. What else?



Assignment Design Collaborations (Or: Who's that chair for?)

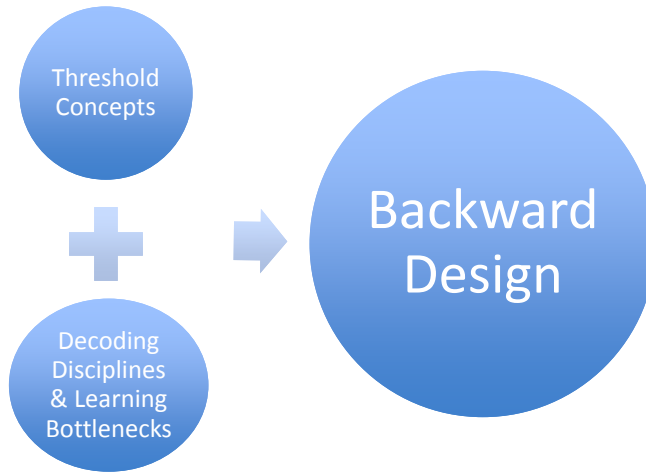


Assignment Design Workshops at USU

- Developing learning outcomes
- Creating assignments
- Designing meaningful library collaborations
- Assessing Impact
- Sharing



Useful Frameworks



Authenticity



You see research *where?*

Cosmic latte

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Cosmic Latte is a name assigned to the average color of the universe, given by a team of astronomers from Johns Hopkins University.

- Contents [hide]
- 1 Discovery of the color
 - 1.1 Naming of the color
- 2 References
- 3 External links



Discovery of the color [edit]

In 2001, Kari Glazebrook and Ivan Baldry determined that the color of the universe was a greenish white, but they soon corrected their analysis in a 2002 paper ^[1] in which they reported that their survey of the color of all light in the universe added up to a slightly beigeish white. The survey included more than 200,000 galaxies, and measured the spectral range of the light from a large volume of the universe. The hexadecimal RGB value for Cosmic Latte is #FFF8E7.

Cosmic Latte ⓘ
Color coordinates ⓘ

Changing Roles



From Teaching To Consulting: Librarians as Information Literacy Designers. An Interview with Carrie Donovan.

June 8, 2015, 1:55 pm

By Brian Mathews



Carrie Donovan

A few weeks ago I heard Carrie Donovan (Head of Teaching and Learning, Indiana University Libraries) give a keynote address at The Innovative Library Classroom Conference.

Here are the slides from her talk: *Shaking up the Sediment: Re-*

The Fit with Your Work



23

Going Forward

1. How could a focus on assignments contribute to current goals on your campus?
2. What ideas are you taking from this session about how to support work on assignments that will achieve your goals?
3. What questions do you have about implementing these ideas?

Resources

- Resources handout
- Applications for the next charrette: due Nov 15
- Quick tour of the Assignment Library

www.assignmentlibrary.org

“The assignment design focus is so obviously needed ... but that need doesn't become visible and obvious until brought to conscious attention in the charrette.”

--Leslie Reynard
Washburn University



Thank you!

Pat Hutchings
hutchings.pat@gmail.com

Elise Martin
martine@middlesex.mass.edu

Sandra Bailey
sandra.bailey@oit.edu

Kacy Lundstrom
kacy.lundstrom@usu.edu