How to Evaluate Student Performance

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Agenda

- What is performance assessment?
- Why do we do it?
- What methods do we use?
- Designing performance assessment instruments
- Current trends
- Sample Rubrics
- Common mistakes

We Teaching

Because



What is Assessment?

- ...is a method of acquiring and processing the information needed to improve an individual's performance and accomplishments.
- It is the process of evaluating performance ... sharing that information with them and searching for ways to improve their performance.

Why do we do it?

- Evaluation
 - reward high performance
 - punish poor performance
 - differentiate level of mastery
 - official reporting

- Development
 - -identify problems
 - -correct mistakes
 - motivation andinterest
 - improve learning
 - improve performance

What methods do we use?

- Traditional methods
 - Written Exams
 - Oral Exams
 - Research papers
 - Written case analyses
 - Essays
 - Attendance

- Participative techniques
 - Case Discussions
 - Class (topic)discussions
 - Individual or TeamPresentations
 - Projects or Exercises
 - Peer evaluations

Designing an Assessment System

- What is the goal of the assessment?
 - What do you want students to learn?
 - What evidence do you need to evaluate learning?
- Communication is essential: matching expectations, goal setting
 - Set expectations early
 - collaborative approaches:
 - self-evaluation
 - team evaluation

Designing a performance appraisal system

- Set Learning Objectives
- Link objectives to behaviors and/or skills
- Develop Rubrics for measurement
- Give Meaningful Feedback
- Work toward Mastery

Current Trends

- Short Quizzes & "Prep" Tests
- Narrative essays or Journals
- Minute Paper
- Application card
- Chain Notes
- Class Discussion
- Team Projects
- Peer Evaluations
- Experiential exercises
- Games/simulations/role-plays

Common Mistakes

- Inconsistency/ambiguity
- Trying to grade everything
- Valuing quantity over quality
- Valuing facts over analysis
- Halo effect
- First impression
- Leniency/stringency
- Contrast effect ("curve")
- Similar-to-me effect
- Central tendency error

Sources of Information

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