Using Grading Strategies to Promote Student Learning

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Learning Objectives

• Identify ways to enhance student learning through grading practices and self assessment
• Determine best practice in assessment and grading

Backwards Learning Approach

• Focuses students' thinking about knowledge and skills needed to meet learning objectives and perform culminating tasks
• Encourages self assessment and ownership of learning
• Students clarify the task, identify goals, and develop a plan of action

Reflection Prompts

• Assessment Task: At the end of this instruction, what will I be asked to do or create?
• Knowing Goals: What will I need to know and understand?
• Doing Goals: What will I need to be able to do?
• Action Plan: What is my plan for completing this task successfully? What steps will I take?

Student Learning and Success

• How does grading contribute to student learning and success?

Your Grading Experiences

• Two Grading Experiences
  – Done Well
  – Done Poorly
• Describe
  – Characteristics
  – Consequences
Promote Learning Through Effective Evaluation

- Involve students in identifying expectations related to learning goals (Backwards learning)
- Encourage student reflection of their work
- Student complete evaluation of their work
- Utilize peer feedback to enhance quality of work

Promote Learning Through Effective Grading

- Prepare in Advance
- Communicate Your Expectations
- Apply Grading Criteria Consistently
- Give Constructive Feedback
- Consider How to Improve

Strategies for Effective Grading

- Prepare in Advance
  - Clear learning outcomes
  - Formative / summative assessments
  - Clear grading criteria (scoring, rubrics)
  - Define consequences
  - Determine realistic timeline for grading
- Communicate Your Expectations
  - Syllabus, assignments, handouts, rubrics
  - Learning outcomes and desired performance
  - Logistics (due dates, format, etc.)
  - Ask and answer questions!

Grading Resources

Grading Schemes / Strategies
- https://cft.vanderbilt.edu/grades-sub-pages/grading-student-work/

Grading & Self Confidence

Managing Conflict
Grading Resources

Involving Students in Evaluation
  • http://www.assessmentliteracy.org/blog/three-ways-engage-students-assessment-process/

Backwards Learning Approach
  • http://www.ascd.org/ascd-express/vol8/817-silver.aspx