



Dear Colleagues:

Assessment is an integral part of instruction, as it determines whether or not the goals of education are being met. Assessment affects decisions about grades, placement, advancement, instructional needs, curriculum, and, in some cases, funding.



To learn more about alternative assessments and using Blackboard tools for student evaluation, see the ITDA links below and read the article from VITAL about other ways to measure student learning.

From,

The Office of Instructional Technology, Design, & Assessment (ITDA)

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"The Line" Quote from Experience

The oral exam I gave as my final was one of the most honest conversations about racism that I have heard in my Core class. It was also the perfect way to end the semester: with students actually exhibiting dialogue and empathy, not just writing about it. --Cynthia Rutz



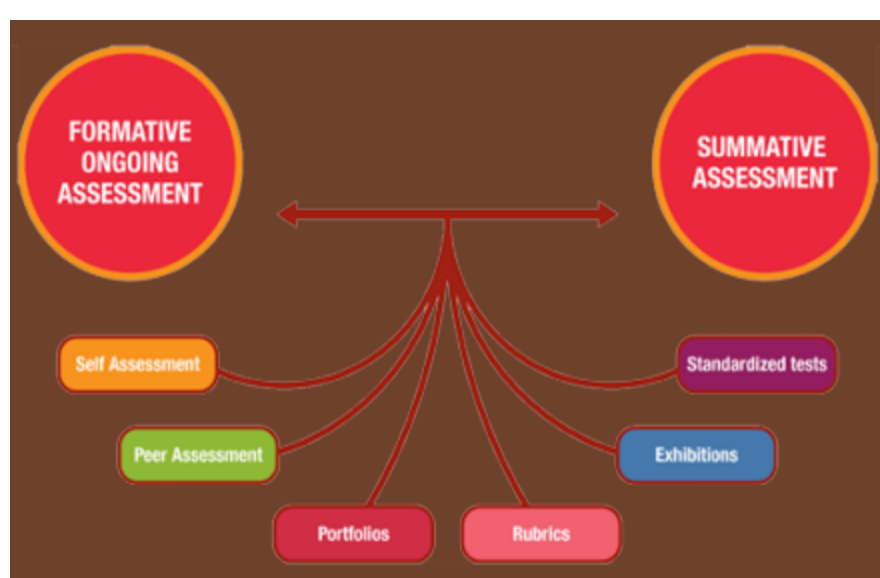
Education is Changing.

It's Time Assessment Caught Up!

-An article from Stanford Social Innovation Review focuses on assessment as a larger approach to honing in on skills and not focusing so much on scores.

"Assessment doesn't have to be on a standard curve—let's shake it up."

[CLICK HERE TO READ THE FULL ARTICLE](#)



- Click on the infographic above to read the blog by Chris Zook, Applied Education Systems.



**From the Desk of Cynthia Rutz, Director
Valparaiso Institute for Teaching and Learning (VITAL)**

Do you ever wonder whether your tests, exams, and assignments are really developing the skills you want your students to learn? What would you like them to retain five minutes after your class ends? Five months later? How about five years later?

Your colleagues Salena Anderson (English) and Mandy Brobst-Renaud (Theology) radically altered the way they assess student learning once they realized what they truly wanted their students to know and be able to do.

BEYOND EXAMS: OTHER WAYS TO MEASURE STUDENT LEARNING

[CLICK HERE TO READ THE FULL ARTICLE](#)

From the Office of Instructional Technology, Design, & Assessment (ITDA)

CREATING ASSESSMENTS ON BLACKBOARD



Click the **Bb** button [here](#) for linking to VU's *Confluence Knowledge Base* for access to videos and screenshots with step-by-step instructions for finding answers about Blackboard Assessments including Tests, Surveys, Assignments, and Self and Peer Reviews.

[Learn More About Blackboard for Instructors](#)

**INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY, DESIGN & ASSESSMENT (ITDA)
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