



Dear Colleagues:

We know that instructors have concerns about academic honesty when it comes to online testing. Of course the VU Honor Code applies, but you can also take additional steps to minimize temptation by teaching digital responsibility.



This issue provides information about two Blackboard Learn educational tools: Test & Survey Options and SafeAssign. We talk to faculty about their assessment strategies, and we also hear from students about what faculty can do to better prepare them for testing and high-stakes assessments.

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



Test & Survey Options

When you deploy a test or survey in a content area, you set the options for feedback, due date, restriction by location, timer, multiple attempts, and presentation. [Click here to learn more.](#)



SafeAssign

SafeAssign compares student submissions against a set of academic papers to identify areas of overlap between the submitted text and existing works. [Click here to learn more.](#)

ITDA is seeking faculty to attend live or zoom workshops. CLICK HERE to express an interest. Include topic, mode & preferred days/times.



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

TAKE THE PAIN OUT OF TESTING

Everyone hates tests. For students, test anxiety has long been on the rise. Faculty dread both writing exams and the tedium of grading them. Three of your VU colleagues have found a way to take some of the pain out of testing.

Musa Pinar (Business) draws on question pools to create his exams. Mandy Brobst-Renaud (Theology) uses alternative forms of assessment that allow her students to exhibit their learning and also play to their strengths. And Lanie Steinwart (Communication & Visual Arts) saves time by creating online tests that can be graded automatically by Blackboard.

Read the Full Article Here: [Take The Pain Out of Testing](#)



Students Speak Up

Students were asked what is one thing a teacher has done that has helped them relieve test anxiety. Here's what they said...

"Study guides, in class review, and open note tests help relieve the most anxiety for me."

"My Chemistry professor does an in-class trivia period the class before the exam to review topics that we're going to need for the exam. This is also something that's been done for me in the past with social studies/history and math, so it's versatile."

"Class kahoot reviews, take home tests, or study guides."

NOVEMBER 10, 2022

Digital Teaching Symposium

Join us for a full day of peer-led sessions on digital teaching strategies for the unique needs of 2022.

Sponsored By



Registration is free! [Click here to learn more.](#)

VITAL/Blackboard/ITDA Help Desk: Submit a Request Here

Visit the NEW VITAL Website, One-Stop-Shop for Faculty Resources