Assessments & Feedback

Formative + Summative Assessments & Feedback: helps your students build on their work and understand how their work connects with the larger picture of the class

1a) Formative Assessment: evaluates learning throughout the course (typically low to medium stakes)

- Helps your students see if they're on the right track
- Feedback (peer, self, instructor) is important
- Examples: small quizzes, minute papers, writing exercises

1b) Formative Feedback: meant for revising, such as feedback on a draft or a low-stakes assignment

2a) Summative Assessment: evaluates cumulative learning from the entire course (typically high stakes)

- Falls at the end of a topic, unit, or course
- Previous activities/assessments have prepared students for summative assessment
- Examples: exams, final projects, final presentations

2b) Summative Feedback: designed for students to show their mastery on a final exam or project

> **Resource:** Giving Feedback to Your Students

3) Authentic & Complex Assessments
- Foster a deep approach to learning
- Reflect upon the question "What do I want to know my students can do after they're done taking my course?" can help you identify what is an authentic task for your students
- Provide students with purposeful and challenging assessments that accurately reflect what students might be called upon to do after the course

4) Low Stakes Assessments
- Think of them as activities
- Make your students feel confident and take risks without the weight of being graded
- Use class time for low stakes practice
- Help your students practice and test their own knowledge or skills development before the high stakes midterm or final assessment
- Help both you and your students know where they are and where support may be needed

5) Corrective Feedback: clarifies or adjusts students thinking

6) Motivational Feedback: highlights what students have done well

> **Resource:** Assessing for Learning

Finding the Balance with Assessments & Feedback
- Too much pressure on summative assessments and feedback can cause students to center their studying around the assessments ("What's on the exam" syndrome)
- Use low stakes practice and formative assessments and feedback as changes to practice things they might fail at or struggle with during their first go-around (critical thinking skills & putting discrete things together)

Tools
- Canvas Quizzes for Automated Feedback
- Rubrics
- Annotation
- Video or Audio Feedback