High Quality Online Courses, Module 2

Overview video transcript

This module will introduce you to strategies to engage with your learners in a variety of meaningful ways, using an array of interactive assessment ideas. And help you answer crucial questions like:

Do my activities and assessments help learners develop core skills and competencies that align with my course learning outcomes?

Are my assessments authentic, reflecting discipline-specific, real-world problems and challenges?

Do my activities and assessments follow the principles of universal design for learning?

You will learn what makes an effective online assessment:

> *[I] have found it effective to have a balance of small and large assessments – Regular small weekly activities so students can gauge their comfort with the weekly units, then larger cumulative activities every few weeks so they can make connections across units. Through more regular activities, students benefit from timely engagement and receive more regular feedback to continuously improve for upcoming activities.*
>
> ***Professor David Ha, University of Waterloo***

And how to use assignments and activities to engage learners and build community:

> *I try to use assignments that allow and encourage students to incorporate their own experiences, so that they feel more connected to the course. By using more open-ended prompts that have some flexibility, students can customize their work so that it is more aligned with their interests and their other courses. This really helps with their motivation and engagement!*
>
> ***Professor Don Boyes, University of Toronto***

Join us in this module and learn how to design high quality, effective online activities and assessments!