

# Assessments & Evaluation Package (25 Hours)



Strong assessments and continuous evaluation are features of the best curriculum. Teachers get help to create and communicate goals and objectives in lesson planning and understand how to use formative assessments, while exploring a range of test and evaluation strategies that translate to better learning.

This comprehensive set of online PD courses helps teachers gain confidence and build skills in using student assessments.

The Assessment and Evaluation Package includes 5 self-study courses (5 hours each) for a total 25 hours of professional development.

- Assessment Strategies
- Formative Assessment
- Rubrics in Teaching and Learning
- Student-centered Learning
- Student Portfolios

# Assessment Strategies



## Standards:

This course aligns to the INTASC Standards including Learner Development, Learning Differences, Content Knowledge, Application of Content, Assessment, Planning for Instruction and Instructional Strategies.

It also aligns to the McRel Teacher Evaluation Standards including Teacher Leadership, Teachers Know Content, Teachers Facilitate Learning and Teachers Analyze and Reflect.

Assessments are not confined to year end tests and grades. They are meant to be a part of daily teaching and learning. Good assessments are powerful – they may be used to change the way teachers teach, students learn, and sometimes even what is taught.

This course will help teachers design an assessment process that will provide a reliable and valid evaluation of their students. Strategies for assessing Reading and Math skills are explored in detail. Assessments may be seen as an opportunity for teacher professional development. From updating teaching strategies to modifying curriculum to tailoring instruction, assessments may enable both teachers and students to achieve their goals.



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# Assessment Strategies

## Course Outline

### LESSON 1: Classroom Assessment Strategies

- Exploring Standards with a brief introduction
- Elaborating on different kinds of assessments including summative and formative assessments
- Connecting learning to the real world beyond classrooms

### LESSON 2: The Assessment Process

- Defining and providing information on various assessment related terms, including evaluation and validity; and concepts such as sound assessment design and effective communication
- Explaining the assessment process including writing objectives and analyzing data

### LESSON 3: Assessment and Evaluation Strategies

- Detailing assessment strategies regarding Reading: including before and after reading strategies and related concepts
- Analyzing in-depth the strategies relating to Mathematics: including higher order thinking, reflective prompts and self-questioning

### LESSON 4: Assessment Challenges and Professional Development

- Exploring the challenges of assessments as opportunities for professional development
- Reiterating the integral part of assessments in education and providing information on available resources



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# Formative Assessment



## Standards:

This course aligns to all of the INTASC Standards including Learner Development, Learning Differences, Learning Environments, Content Knowledge, Application of Content, Assessment, Planning for Instruction and Instructional Strategies.

It also aligns to all of the McRel Teacher Evaluation Standards including Teacher Leadership, Diverse Learners, Teachers Know Content, Teachers Facilitate Learning and Teachers Analyze and Reflect.

Formative assessments allow teachers to respond to a student's needs quickly, and, even more importantly, allows the student to shape instruction. Effective formative assessments result in instruction that meets the needs of each student.

In this innovative online course, teachers learn about and implement formative assessments. Discover and demonstrate for yourself, your students, and your community what happens when students are truly learning.



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# Formative Assessment

## Course Outline

### LESSON 1: The Essentials

- Concepts behind and purpose of formative assessment
- Practical strategies that may be used to implement formative assessment
- Commonly used formative assessments, including teacher observation, questioning, rubrics, essays, and peer assessment
- Benefits of each strategy and how they can be used effectively

### LESSON 2: Nuts and Bolts

- The process of formative assessment
- Concepts behind goal mastery
- The importance of feedback, reports, visual depiction, and celebration in formative assessment
- Designing lesson plans that integrate formative assessment

### LESSON 3: Making Connections

- The role of assessment in standards-based education
- Formative and summative assessments, and the difference between the two



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# Rubrics in Teaching and Learning



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A rubric is more than an assessment.

By using consistent grading, teachers can provide quality formative and summative feedback for students at periodic intervals throughout the year.

Teachers use rubrics to grade a wide range of student work, including: solo projects, group work, portfolios, homework assignments, book reviews, and tests.



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# Rubrics in Teaching and Learning

## Course Outline

### LESSON 1: Introduction to Rubrics

- The purpose, significance and characteristics of rubrics in education
- Different types of rubrics
- Learning to choose rubrics to match specific needs

### LESSON 2: Design and Implementation

- Stages in designing a rubric based on required criteria
- Identifying the online resource required
- Seeking feedback and teacher assessment of one's own rubric

### LESSON 3: Rubrics in Instruction

- How to use rubrics to enhance instructional effectiveness
- Integrating rubrics into different subjects
- Identifying and meeting diverse learning needs

### LESSON 4: Rubrics in Assessment

- Usefulness of assessment rubrics and description of its different elements
- Role of a teacher in developing and implementing effective assessment rubrics
- Assessment rubric based on standards and teacher self-assessment rubric



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# Student-centered Learning



## Standards:

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It also aligns to all of the McRel Teacher Evaluation Standards including Teacher Leadership, Diverse Learners, Teachers Know Content, Teachers Facilitate Learning and Teachers Analyze and Reflect.

Teachers committed to student development look forward to lively, stimulating, and effective learning environments where their students are self-motivated, able to build on what they already know, and equipped for the real-world.

The student-centered learning approach provides a fitting framework for designing a classroom that shifts focus from the basic implementation of standardized curriculum and assignments to a more creative, organic facilitation of subject content and student activity.

This course presents resources, research-validated strategies, and practical examples to equip teachers with the necessary toolkit to seamlessly turn their classrooms into student-centered environments.



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# Student-centered Learning

## Course Outline

### LESSON 1: Introduction

- Meaning, characteristics, and principles of Student-centered Learning
- Comparison between teacher-led and student-centered approaches
- Dispelling myths regarding student-centered classrooms
- Student-centered learning and the standards

### LESSON 2: Setting Objectives and Providing Feedback in the SCL Classroom

- Developing student-centered learning objectives
- Facets of understanding
- Staying on track through learning logs
- Assessment and feedback techniques

### LESSON 3: SCL Strategies for the Classroom

- Understanding the teacher's role in a student-centered classroom
- Teaching and learning methods
- Ensuring student motivation
- Classroom strategies for integrating SCL techniques

### LESSON 4: Setting up for Success

- Potential of technology in key areas of learning
- Tools that enhance learning in student-centered classrooms
- Getting parents involved in learning
- Extending learning opportunities outside of school hours



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# Student Portfolios



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Successfully integrate portfolios to enhance student development and become an essential part of teaching and learning.

The practical tips and suggestions provided in this course will take teachers through the process of implementing portfolios in their classrooms. The resources included show teachers how to capitalize on a student's natural tendency to save work, get them to take a second look, and critically analyze how they can improve future work.

Rich in examples, suggestions, and tips for teachers, this course aims to enhance the teaching and learning experience for students.



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# Student Portfolios

## Course Outline

### LESSON 1: Process and Benefits

- Research on student portfolios
- Portfolio benefits and their contribution to learning
- Characteristics of the portfolio process
- Adding power to portfolios with parents as mentors
- Logistics and management of both paper and digital student portfolios

### LESSON 2: Types of Portfolios

- In-depth analysis of the types of student portfolios
- Primary stages of the process, working and showcasing portfolios
- Examining the role of teachers as 'portfolio advisors'
- Potential challenges of the portfolio process, and practical tips to overcome them

### LESSON 3: Digital Portfolios

- Digital portfolios and their 21st century relevance
- Types of digital portfolios and their practical implementation
- A systems approach to planning an impressive portfolio
- Examining the key aspects of effective implementation of digital portfolios
- Web tools to help students create digital portfolios

### LESSON 4: Portfolio Assessment

- Benefits of portfolio assessment for both students and teachers
- Formative versus summative assessment of student work
- Implementing a scoring system with rubrics, presenting results
- Brief overview of the assessment process, focus, and criterion
- Considerations for portfolio assessment



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