Assessing Past Course Designs to Improve Future Designs

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Assignment: Analytical Conflict Transformation and Assessment Paper and Panel Presentation

Goals of the assignment are to increase:
- Student-student collaboration
- Student-faculty collaboration
- Peer-centered education
- Student confidence, or self-efficacy
- Student enjoyment
- Formative Assessment

Ways to Improve the Assignment and SoTL Research

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Are the goals clear and appropriate for college? How can they be improved?</th>
<th>Does the assignment move students toward achieving the goals? Does it allow for appropriate assessment of students?</th>
<th>Was the SoTL research design appropriate? How could it have been improved?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Assignment: Structured Study Pairs and Cooperative Testing (Pyramids)

Goals of the course design:
- Increase student-student collaboration
- Facilitate participation in class discussion
- Increase formative assessment
- Improve student performance on exams
- Transform the exams into learning tools, not merely summative assessment.
- Increase student confidence, or self-efficacy, and student enjoyment

Ways to Improve the Course Design and SoTL Research

| Are the goals clear and appropriate for college? How can they be improved? | Does the course design move students toward achieving the goals? | Was the SoTL research design appropriate? How could it have been improved? |
**Assignment:** TuSSLEs and CRAWLS

**Goals of the assignments:**
- Complete readings before class
- Improve critical reading skills—identify the thesis, how the author supports her or his thesis, and limitations or weaknesses in arguments
- Improve writing skills
- Facilitate participation in class discussion
- Increase formative assessment
- Improve student performance on exams
- Increase student confidence, or self-efficacy, and student enjoyment

**Ways to Improve the Assignment and SoTL Research**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Are the goals clear and appropriate for college? How can they be improved?</th>
<th>Does the assignment move students toward achieving the goals? Do they allow for assessing students on their achieving the goals?</th>
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**Assignment or Course Design:**

**Goals:**

**Steps to Designing an Assignment or Course and a Corresponding SoTL Research Project**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What are your goals? Are they clear and appropriate for college?</th>
<th>Does the assignment (or course design) move students toward achieving the goals?</th>
<th>How can you measure the effectiveness of your assignment or course design?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>