



Assessment in Higher Education

Gordon College of Education

Rationale

- “Alternative assessment” is an increasingly common and popular discourse in education during the last two decades. The current preference for alternative assessment has been partly stimulated by recent evidence on learning which points to the importance of students' active engagement in the learning process (Tan, 2012).
- The higher education in many countries is increasingly subjected to demands to implement alternative assessment strategies that provide outcome measures of both student achievements and program effectiveness (Libman, 2010).
- Learner-centred practices such as self- and peer-assessment might enhance students' autonomy, self-confidence and reflection, allowing the development of skills and promoting deep learning (Pereiraa, Assunção Floresa and Niklassonb, 2016)

Alternative Assessment in Higher Education can be seen in two aspects:

Evaluation of students achievements for grade or research purposes

Although the alternative assessment can meet the objectives of the formative evaluation, its value in the summative assessment that is required in higher education is more problematic, and this is the challenge that we must face .

Learning about ways of evaluation

The purpose of the courses is mainly to evaluate work processes. And the aim of learning the subject is to provide information on this subject at the colleges of education in order to implement an alternative assessment in the schools among young learners (Huber-Shelly and Levi, 2017)

In this Consortium Meeting, we will describe how at "Gordon College" we are putting into practice the issue of alternative assessment among pre-service teachers (students of education and teaching) and the difficulties we have to face. For this purpose we will present a sample of courses of each of the four types of courses we have in our educational establishment:

Introduction course

Training Course (or workshops)

Seminar

Online course

Introduction courses



Measurement and Evaluation

Course description	Existing methods of evaluation	Difficulty in the existing assessment method
The course focuses on the principles and methods of students, teachers and educational projects evaluation. The course combines frontal teaching, group work, visualization and analysis of videos, digital games and participation in simulations.	<p>40% -exam 60% - students teams select an object of evaluation (students, professors or educational projects) build an evaluation tool.</p> <p>Students are assessed through a traditional assessment tool and an alternative assessment tool.</p> <p>The evaluation of the teachers is done through a class observation and a subsequent feedback session.</p> <p>Educational projects are evaluated according to the criteria defined during the course.</p>	<p>With regard to teacher evaluation in which the students observe the teacher, appreciate him and must give feedback - it is difficult to evaluate the process, we estimate the final result. In the process there is observation and feedback, and it is difficult to evaluate these processes.</p> <p>Anabel course</p>

Training Courses



Special Education Workshops for Academic Retraining

Course description	Existing methods of evaluation	Difficulties in the existing assessment methods
workshops student learn how to mediate language and math and then apply it to SE children	Self-assessment and Formative assessment Summative assessment of a student portfolio by the lecturer	How to build constructive evaluation for the evolving student? (from not knowing to knowing) gradual process

“Self Awareness of Learning Process”

Course description	Existing methods of evaluation	Difficulties in the existing assessment methods
<p>PBL Problem based learning, the student need to solve it through processes in the kindergarten</p>	<p>self-assessment peer assessment. fine tuning- designing evaluation academic work - according to a rubric given by the lecturer</p>	<p>How to evaluate the process of fine tuning during the course?</p>

Nature and Environment in Kindergarten

Course description	Existing methods of evaluation	Difficulties in the existing assessment methods
workshop (outdoor activities)	Planning a whole session of outdoor activities Peer review A scored rubric to examine the work	Evaluation of the whole process.

Seminar



Action Research

Course description	Existing methods of evaluation	Difficulty in the existing assessment method
Research work under the supervision of the lecturer. Students discuss their personal uneasiness concerning their training as pre-service teachers. The discussions are done in three spheres: (1) the whole group; (2) groups of 5-6 students; (3) through a researcher written diary,	Every student writes a research diary, which is the main research tool. Every student presents his/her case in front of their group and gets peers feedback. Every student writes a research work concerning his/her uneasiness and their actions to deal with it. This work is examined through a scored rubric.	There should be guidelines for a well written diary <u>Our Question</u>

Online courses



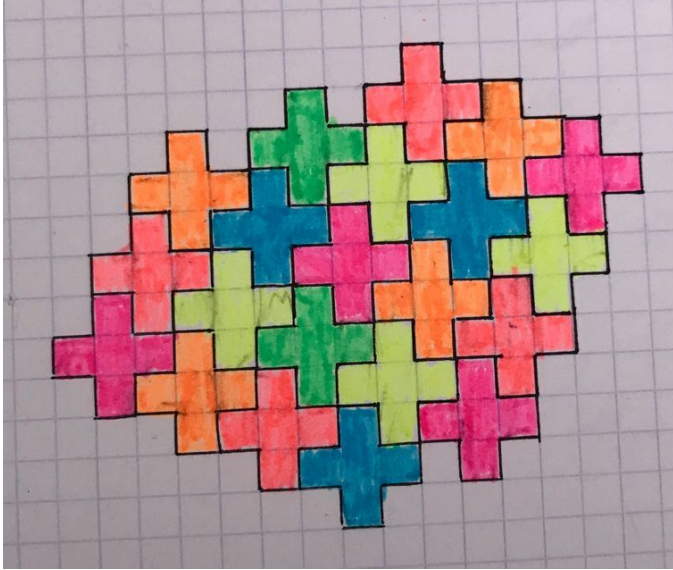
When Mathematics Meets Art

Course description	Existing methods of evaluation	Difficulty in the existing assessment method
The course focuses on the six math concepts students are not familiar with. The course combines forum discussions, executing small-scale math inquiry, online tests, construction of online art gallery and final test.	The evaluation of the course is carried out in 56% a final traditional test; 20% for online test; 15% for forum discussions; 9% for artwork uploaded on a collaborative gallery	Forum discussions are essential to online learning but I can only evaluate a number of contributions (there are 130 students). Artworks are implementation of math concepts learned - the difficulty is estimation of the quality because it is a math department and students are trained to be math teachers and not artists.

Original students artwork of excellent quality and excellent implementation of math concepts



Original students artwork
(not the best quality)



Not original students artwork with
inaccurate math explanation



The statue describe Fibonacci
sequence which represents the
number π

Sustainability

Course description	Existing methods of evaluation	Difficulty in the existing assessment method
The course focuses on ecological science, environmental issues (problems), and sustainability principles	On line missions Final test	Measuring the side effect of knowledge acquisition: environmental responsible behavior, environmental literacy.