Creating High-Stakes Assessments: Alternatives to Quiz Generator Exams

Many courses use traditional exams as their final assessment, but what about alternatives? Alternative assessments are more accurate reflections of the critical thinking and problem-solving skills that you want your students to demonstrate.

Assessment Goals

First, consider the following questions:
- What learning objectives and other skills (e.g., writing, public speaking, collaborating, etc.) do the students need to demonstrate during the assessment?
- How will these proficiencies be measured?
- What CoursePlus features will be used to support academic integrity?

Assessment Formats and Tools

Select an assessment format that matches the assessment goal, and then determine what tools are available to you to implement.

Proficiency level	Measurable verbs	Assessment formats	Assessment tools
Analysis	*Compare, analyze, classify, survey, differentiate, distinguish*	Case studies, critiques, labs, papers, projects, debates, or concept maps that require students to: • Discriminate or select relevant and irrelevant parts • Determine how elements function together • Determine bias, values, or underlying intent in presented material	Drop Box (file submission)
Evaluation	*Judge, criticize, support, evaluate, appraise, critique*	Journals, diaries, critiques, reflections, problem sets, product reviews, or studies that require students to: • Test, monitor, judge, or critique readings, performances, or products against established criteria or standards	Drop Box (file submission), Peer Assessment, VoiceThread (presentation)
Creation	*Create, generate, plan, produce, design, build*	Research projects, essays, plans, or designs that require students to: • Make, build, design or generate something new	Drop Box (file submission), VoiceThread or Video (presentation)

Table adapted from Use Bloom's Taxonomy to Align Assessments. (n.d.) University of Louisville: Delphi Center for Teaching and Learning. Retrieved from: https://louisville.edu/delphi/resources/-/files/resources/pages/Blooms-Taxonomy-Handout.pdf

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