



Creating Meaningful Assignments

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Learning Outcomes

Identify innovative assignments that demonstrate learning outcomes.

Determine ways to offer assignment choice.

Explain the value of transparency in assignments.

Articulate how to provide assignment support and feedback.

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Backward Design

(Wiggins & McTighe, 2005)



Learning
Outcomes

Assessments

Teaching
Methods

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**What makes an
assignment
meaningful?**

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Meaningful Assignments

(Arend and Carlson, 2024)



Aligned with
learning
outcomes

Personally
relevant and
culturally
affirming

Challenging,
empowering,
and growth
focused

Authentic with
real-world value

Skill-based and
relevant to world
of work

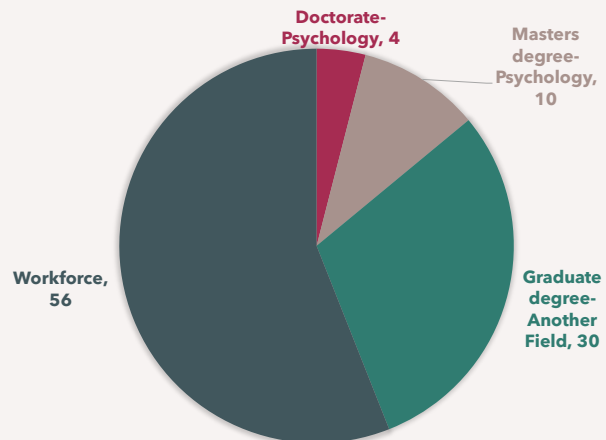
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Evaluating Data and Re-considering Outcomes and Assignments



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PSYCHOLOGY MAJOR GRADUATES



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Beyond the Exam: Innovative Assignment Options

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Innovative Assignment Options: James Winfield



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Innovative Assignments

(Winfield, 2024)

Infographics

Executive
Summaries

Lightning
Talks or
Pecha Kucha

Podcasts or
Videos

Social Media
Posts or
Blogs

Book
Reviews

Experiential
Learning
Assignments

Press
Release

Portfolio

Training
Manual

Group
Projects

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Choice

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Why Choice?

(George & Thompson, 2024)

Foster
autonomy and
ownership

Shift power
dynamic

Align with
interests and
goals

Increase
motivation

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Giving Choice Caleb Morris, University of South Carolina



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Types of Choice

(Dabrowski & Marshall, 2018)

Content

- Topic
- Sources

Product

- Format
- Menu

Process

- Due dates
- Individual or Group

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**How do (or
could you)
give choice?**



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Transparency

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Why Transparency Matters

(Wasserman & Ayeni, 2024)



Eliminates
Invisible Pre-
Requisites

Increased
Motivation

Improved
Quality of
Work

Higher Levels
of
Achievement

Increased
Academic
Confidence

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TiLT Approach (Winkelmes, 2013)

Purpose

Steps or Tasks

Criteria

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**Provide Support and
Feedback**

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Providing Support and Feedback: Geneva Murray



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Approaches to Support (Murray & Scafe, 2024)

Tacit and Background
Knowledge

- Assumptions
- Survey

Resources

- Share campus resources

Scaffolded Examples

- Demonstrate
- Practice opportunities

Formative
Assessments

- Feedback along the way
- Reflection

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Feedback

Positively Phrased

Constructive

Prompt

Reflection

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**What is a key
take-away from
today's session?
What is one
action you plan
to take?**



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THANK YOU

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