



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

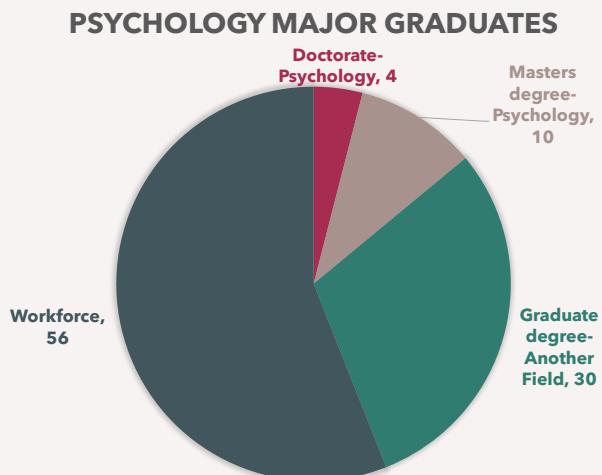
Skill-based and relevant to world of work

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Evaluating Data and Re-considering Outcomes and Assignments



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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?



for Two Writing 1 This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY-SA-NC

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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

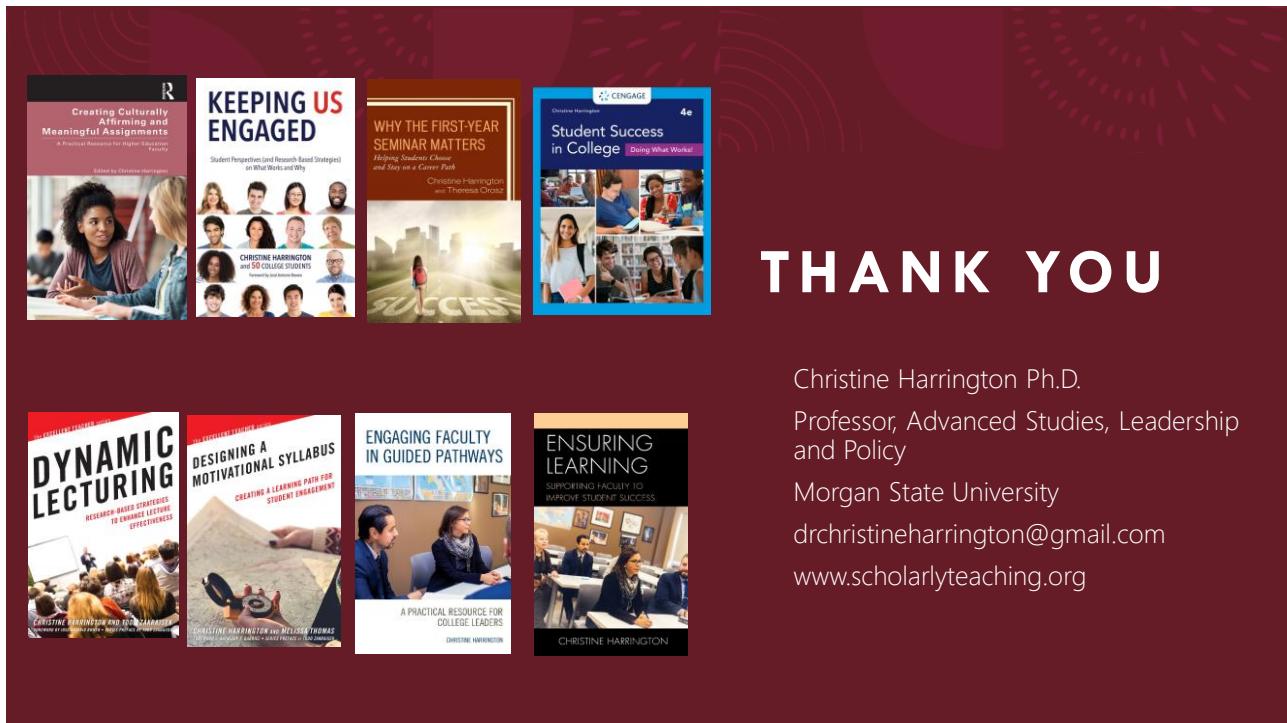
Reflection

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

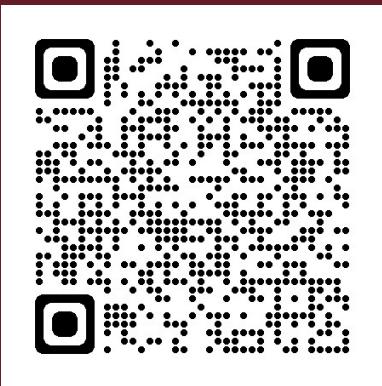


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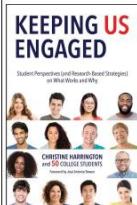


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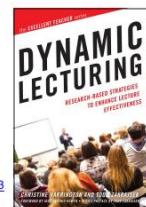
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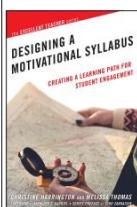
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