



(⁺Mostly Formative) Assessment

Cynthia M. Ho

Loyola University of Chicago School of Law

Panel III Topics



Formative
Assessment



Summative
Assessment

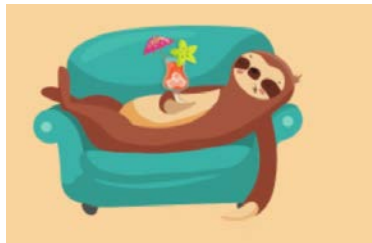
+ Grading

+ Student Evals

Distinguishing Assessments

+ Formative

During learning process



+ Summative

After learning process



Benefits of Formative Assessment (which ABA requires)



Active Learning



Increased efficiency



Helps Promote Long
Term Learning

What can be used for formative assessment?



"OBJECTIVE"
(MC, T/F)



ESSAY-ISH



DISCUSSION BOARD
OR COMMENT

Getting Started



+ What are your class goals?

- How can assessments promote those goals?
 - How many types and how many/often?
- Can you create a series of assignments to build towards key outcomes?

+ How can you get feedback on whether assessments are working for students (before official class evaluations)?

- Informal mid-semester feedback



Choosing Formative assessment(s)



- + Consider time needed to create and/or respond
 - Verbal response (to group)
 - In-class polling, Small group project, [Minute paper](#)" (in next class)
 - Written response that takes time, but can free up class time and also be reused subsequent years
 - Quizzes
 - Sample Answer and/or Rubric
 - Essay, Short Answer, Simulated Client Project
 - Written individual feedback
 - Consider team submissions and/or sample



How to create formative assessment question(s)?



+ Off the Shelf

- CALI, Quimbee, Casebooks

+ DIY

- Prior exams, class notes of points of confusion
- Inspiration from commercial sources, colleagues, etc.
- Real life examples/news can be discussion prompts

Some Examples

- + Discussion post: Explain the 3 most important things you learned from the reading
- + T/F: Did the court reach the right decision in [CASE]?
- + Word cloud: What did the court hold?
- + MC: Which of the following is an example of [DOCTRINE]?
 - A. X
 - B. Y
 - C. Both A & B
 - D. I don't know.

To Grade or Not to Grade (Formative Assessments)

+ How to promote learning?

- Grade for timely (& professional) completion only
- Check variants
- Small % of overall grade (5-10%) and/or points (i.e. 1-3, or 1-5)
- Nestled assignments, so that can use feedback on bigger projects



Want more?



- + [AALS Resources for Adjuncts](#)

- + Formative Assessment
 - [How to Use Formative Assessment Data to Tailor Teaching](#) (2021)
 - [How to choose a Formative Assessment Platform](#) (2021)
 - [Wegner, Law School Assessment...](#), (2018 JLE) (empirical studies -pp 441-444)
 - *Teaching Civil Procedure Online with Active Learning, in LAW TEACHING STRATEGIES FOR A NEW ERA: BEYOND THE PHYSICAL CLASSROOM* (Dysart & Norton 2021)

+ Thanks!

+ Cynthia M. Ho
cho@luc.edu

