How to create an effective assessment strategy (drilling down – or up – from institutional, via course, to module level)

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Assessment 'strategies' are often conflated with 'methods'.

Scholtz (2016) (PDF) The assessment strategy: An elusive curriculum structure (researchgate.net)

Courses are often constructed as islands apart from the bodies of knowledge and practices from which they are generated and on which they focus.

Boud and Falchikov (2006) (PDF) Aligning Assessment with Long-Term Learning (researchgate.net)

Too often learning, including the design of assessments, is decontextualised, with different parts of a programme existing as islands...

Brunton et al (2016) <u>Assessment strategy case study</u>

Course outcomes / university graduate attributes



Module 1

Assessment task(s)

Module 2

Assessment task(s)

Module 3

Assessment task(s)

Module 4

Assessment task(s)

Third year

Module 1

Assessment task(s)

Module 2

Assessment task(s)

Module 3

Assessment task(s)

Module 4

Assessment task(s)

Second year

Module 1

Assessment task(s)

Module 2

Assessment task(s)

Module 3

Assessment task(s)

Module 4

Assessment task(s)

First year

Entering university

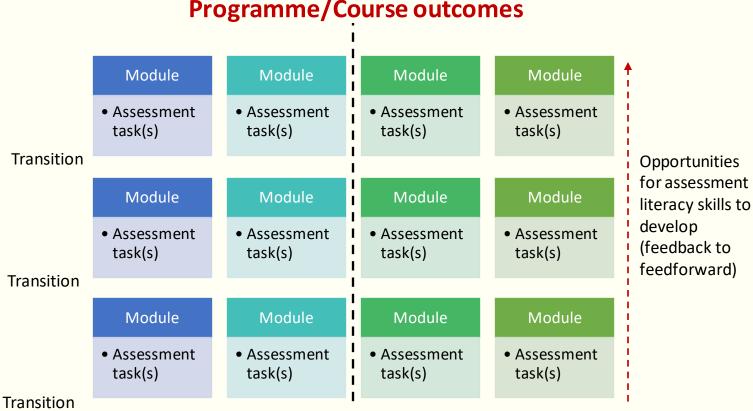
University graduate attributes

Programme/Course outcomes

Module	Module	Module	Module
Assessment task(s)	Assessment task(s)	• Assessment task(s)	Assessment task(s)
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Module	Module	Module	Module
Assessment task(s)	Assessment task(s)	• Assessment task(s)	Assessment task(s)
Module	Module	Module	Module
Assessment task(s)	Assessment task(s)	• Assessment task(s)	Assessment task(s)

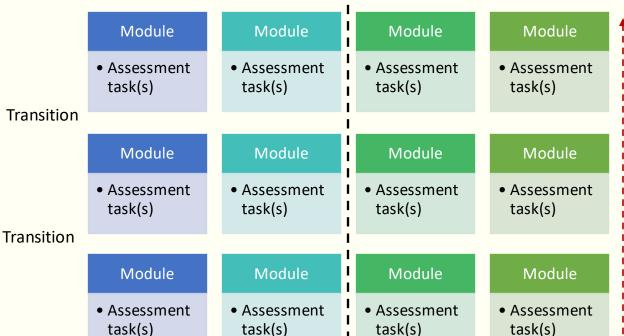
University graduate attributes

Programme/Course outcomes



University graduate attributes

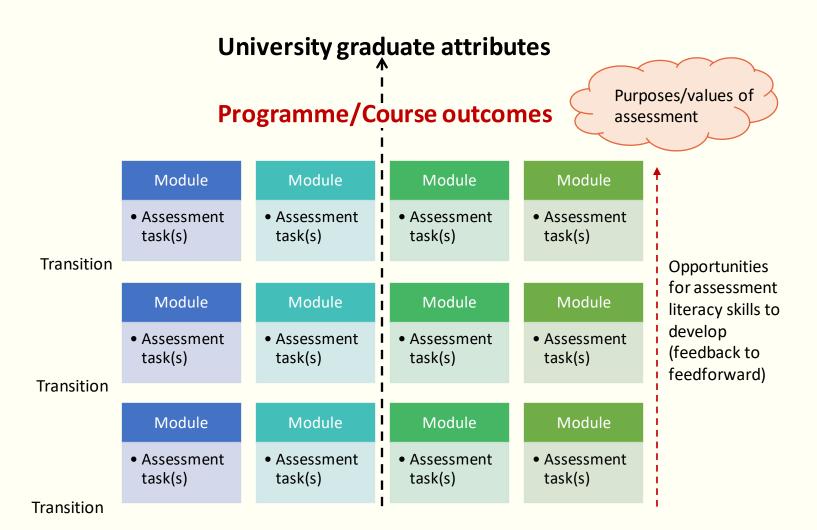
Programme/Course outcomes



Opportunities for assessment literacy skills to develop (feedback to feedforward)

Strategic programme approach vital for inclusive practices.

Transition



Assessment for learning is placed at the centre of subject and program design.

ii. ... assessment is organized holistically across subjects and programs with complementary integrated tasks.

The development of a full range of graduate attributes requires a systematic approach to assessment that builds and enhances those attributes through tasks that are diverse, complementary to each other and embedded strategically throughout a program of study. Integrated whole-of-program curriculum design needs to incorporate assessment and feedback as well as learning outcomes and teaching and learning activities.

Boud and Associates (2010) Assessment 2020: Seven propositions for assessment reform in higher education

Strategy

Module

Assessment task(s)

Explicit consideration of:

Pre- and post-assessment support.

How A&F literacy are being designed into the module.

Assessment as and for learning.

Assessment design rationale – for mod and prog LOs.

Establish a formal link between Assessment Strategy and Quality Assurance Processes.

Brunton et al (2016) Assessment strategy case study

Module approval form

... assessment design is recognised as an integral part of curriculum planning from the earliest stages of course development.

Boud and Associates (2010) <u>Assessment 2020: Seven propositions for assessment reform</u> in higher education

Culture of assessment can be very complex and difficult to redefine.

Fuller et al. (2014) (PDF) Assessment leaders' perspectives of institutional cultures of assessment: a Delphi study (researchgate.net)