



Assessment Clear and Simple: A Practical Guide for Institutions, Departments, and General Education

By Barbara E. Walvoord

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Assessment Clear and Simple is a concise, step-by-step guide for the assessment process. This practical book provides cost-efficient and useful tools that fulfill the requirements of accreditation agencies, legislatures, and review boards to ensure a simple, successful assessment process. In an easy-to-read manner, Walvoord explores planning, budgeting, and changes in curriculum, pedagogy, and programming. The new edition addresses using standardized tests, portfolios, and e-portfolios for the assessment process, and includes new institution-wide planning tools developed by the author for anyone in higher education.

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Editorial Review

Review

"Assessment Clear and Simple fulfills its title without trivializing the work assessment entails." (*Authors Journal Compilation*, Winter 2007)

From the Back Cover

The first edition of *Assessment Clear and Simple* quickly became the essential go-to guide for anyone who participates in the assessment process in higher education. With the increased pressure to perform assessment to demonstrate accountability, *Assessment Clear and Simple* is needed more than ever. This second edition of the classic resource offers a concise, step-by-step guide that helps make assessment simple, cost-efficient, and useful to an institution. It contains effective strategies for meeting the requirements of accreditation agencies, legislatures, review boards, and others, while emphasizing and showing how to move from data to actions that improve student learning. This thoroughly revised and updated edition includes many new or expanded features, including:

Illustrative examples drawn from the author's experience consulting with more than 350 institutions

A basic, no-frills assessment plan for departments and for general education

Tips on how to integrate portfolios and e-portfolios into the assessment process

Suggestions for using rubrics and alternatives to rubrics, including doing assessment for multidisciplinary work

Clear instructions on how to construct a coherent institution-wide assessment system and explain it to accreditors

Ideas for assigning responsibility for general education assessment

Strategies for gathering information about departmental assessment while keeping the departmental workload manageable

Information on how to manage assessment in times of budgetary cutbacks

Praise for the Second Edition of *Assessment Clear and Simple*

"Walvoord's approach to assessment is wonderfully straightforward; it is also effective in facilitating faculty engagement in assessment. We've applied a number of her methods to our campus assessment efforts with success. This book makes assessment both manageable and useful in improving and enhancing student learning."--Martha L. A. Stassen, director of assessment, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and president, New England Educational Assessment Network (NEEAN)

"Walvoord's work clearly presents the basics for getting started in assessment of student learning while honestly addressing the complexities of assessment when driven by faculty passion for student learning. This book is a valuable resource for the novice as well as the developing experts who are leading their institutions in academic assessment."--Bobbi Allen, faculty assessment director, Delta College

About the Author

Barbara E. Walvoord is professor emerita at the University of Notre Dame. She was coordinator of Notre Dame's regional accreditation self-study, the founding director of four faculty development programs— all of which have won national acclaim—and a consultant on assessment. She is the coauthor of *Effective Grading*, from Jossey-Bass.

Users Review

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Roxanne Jimenez:

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Robin Martz:

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