**May 2022**

*Please share with your faculty:*

**Authentic Assessments**

An authentic assessment requires students to apply what they have learned to in a real-world context or novel situation (Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning, Indiana University, 2022). More specifically, an authentic assessment requires students to perform a task that is similar to one expected of them in a given discipline or field. Unlike traditional tests, which measure lower order cognitive processes such as being able to understand or remember information, authentic assessments directly measure higher-order cognitive processes such as being able to apply, evaluate, or create content. Some examples of authentic assessments include designing an experiment, writing a research proposal, creating a lesson plan, analyzing a business case study, creating a portfolio, and conducting and analyzing observations. Although authentic assessments can take more time for students to perform, and for teachers to grade, they not only directly measure higher order skills, but allow for more creativity on the part the student and the teacher. This in turn, can be a more motivating learning and assessment experience. In addition, authentic assessments work best when accompanied by an analytic grading rubric to evaluate students’ performance. This kind of rubric can make task expectations transparent and objective.

**Reference:** [Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning, Indiana University (2022).](https://citl.indiana.edu/teaching-resources/assessing-student-learning/authentic-assessment/index.html) *Authentic Assessment.* https://citl.indiana.edu/teaching-resources/assessing-student-learning/authentic-assessment/index.html

**Check out!** [Shaw, Adam (2019). Authentic assessment in the online classroom. Center for Teaching and Learning, Wiley University.](https://ctl.wiley.com/authentic-assessment-in-the-online-classroom/)

**Please share examples** of how your program uses authentic assessments and I will post those examples on [YU’s Learning Assessment Website](http://yu.edu/provost/assessment/).

**Important Reminder:** Spring 2022 assessment reports will be due on **Monday, June 6**. Please email me if you have any questions about preparing your reports.