

Supporting Authentic Assessment

Through peer-mentorship within a
Community of Practice (CoP)

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'Twin Track' support for Authentic Assessment

National Forum Funding was used to promote the development of authentic assessment practices across the university through:

- A 'Scholars and Supporters' peer-mentorship scheme ('Operation Authentic Assessment Transformation') to support changes in existing practices
- An Authentic Assessment Community of Practice (CoP) to encourage the development of innovative practices

Resulting in a co-created TU Dublin 'Authentic Assessment' Framework



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Operation 'Authentic Assessment' Transformation

- Eight lecturers (Scholars) were funded to undertake an agreed assessment re-design
- Each Scholar was guided by one of three experienced academic mentors (their 'supporters') and encouraged by the Authentic Assessment CoP
- Assessment redesigns were tracked through regular reflective blog posts and work-in-progress presentations
- External Assessment and Feedback experts were invited to provide specialist guidance



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Authentic Assessment Community of Practice

Our Authentic Assessment CoP provided a sustainable way of exchanging innovative, effective practices and supporting the professional development of TU Dublin staff who teach. So far, the CoP has facilitated:

- Two masterclasses and eleven practice exchanges
- Two National Forum funded redesign schemes
- The ongoing development of our 'Authentic Assessment Framework

The CoP will also support our QQI funded Prof-ASSESS project.



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TU Dublin Authentic Assessment Framework

Authentic assessment is a form of assessment which involves students conducting 'real world' tasks in meaningful contexts (Swaffield, 2011)

Our Authentic Assessment Framework aligns to the National Forum continuum of Authenticity (National Forum, 2017) under four Dimensions:

- Dimension 1: Realism
- Dimension 2: Critical Reflection
- Dimension 3: Cognitive Challenge
- Dimension 4: Feedback cycle



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Thank you!

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