Encouraging Academic Integrity
Through
Intentional Assessment Design

Authentic assessments are a valuable tool in encouraging academic integrity in several ways:

- Require students to demonstrate their capacity and competencies.
- Require students to do complex, unique and creative activities.
- Make the task itself or the performance of the task more meaningful to the learner.
- By design, problems or tasks that are authentic may have many solutions, complexity, and ambiguity.
- Use universal design principles, enabling students the opportunity for multiple means of expression.

Examples of the types of assignments that can model authenticity include (Lombardi 2008, Assessing Authentically):

Problem-based learning

Case studies

Collecting novel data

Designing a solution to a real-world problem

Forensic problem solving

Portfolio-based learning

Writing a publication or a letter

Constructing a website, tool, or service

Analysis of existing data

Role play

Staging a performance, conference, or exhibition

It is helpful to create these assessments in a student-centered way. The key to developing authentic assessments is to focus on what learners can do to demonstrate the knowledge and/or skills they have gained.

And we can give students ownership of their assessments by allowing their choice of topics , involving them in establishing rubrics, and by completing a self-assessment.

Authentic assessments are those that ask students to apply their knowledge on "intellectually worthy tasks" (Wiggins, 1990), and those should have "the same competencies, or combinations of knowledge, skills, and attitudes, that [students] need to apply in the criterion situation in professional life"

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