

Use Data and Feedback to Monitor Comprehension

Monitoring student comprehension of key concepts and skills will let you know how students are progressing, identifying students who may need additional attention, and pinpointing concepts that may need reteaching or revisiting. There are both formal and informal approaches to monitoring the mastery of content. Formal approaches include exams, quizzes, and assignments. More informal approaches include entrance and exit tickets, quick polls, and surveys.

Monitoring Assessment Data

- Multiple assessments not only help your students learn but also provide you with evidence of the success of your teaching (Bowen & Watson, 2017). You can utilize the online quiz system in your LMS or online tools such as Kahoot! or Top Hat. These tools provide instant results that allow you to address misconceptions immediately in synchronous classes and through discussion posts and announcements in asynchronous classes.
- To use assessment data, identify the questions that address the content you are tracking and review the results to see how the class performed overall and how individuals or groups of students performed. It can also be helpful to analyze the responses to see the common errors students made. These can help uncover misconceptions that students may still hold.

Entrance and Exit Tickets

- Asking students to reflect on past learning as an entrance ticket can prepare them for connecting that content to new content in the upcoming module. Asking them to respond to a question or to write down the muddiest point or a question they still have at the end of a synchronous session or module helps students reflect on their own understanding. These processes also allow you to analyze the results for evidence of learning, areas that need to be revisited, or persistent misconceptions.
- To implement entrance and exit tickets in online classes, consider the following approaches:
 - Padlet—a free, online, no-account-required tool—can easily and quickly capture entrance and exit tickets.
 - Use a shared (open for anonymous responses) Google document to collect responses.
 - Use a polling tool such as Poll Everywhere as a way to capture the muddiest point and convert it to a word cloud or ranked list.
 - In a synchronous (live) online class, use an electronic whiteboard, such as BigBlueButton in the Canvas LMS, that allows students to write their responses.

Quick Polls and Surveys

- Using polling software during synchronous sessions allows you to monitor how confident students are feeling in mastering the content. Asking questions such as, “How sure do you feel about this content?” or “If I gave you a test right now, how would you do?” and having students respond on a Likert scale will let you know if you should provide more instruction or a few more examples or if your students are ready to move on.
- Beginning a synchronous session with a quick poll on required pre-reading or prior content that students will need to use during the session will let you know how prepared students are to begin instruction.

Source

Bowen, J. A., & Watson, C. E. (2017). *Teaching naked techniques: A practical guide to designing better classes*. Jossey-Bass.