Teaching and Assessing for 21st Century Skills

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Why being clear about outcomes is important:



Alverno Principles

- Educators are RESPONSIBLE for making learning more available by ARTICULATING OUTCOMES and making them PUBLIC
- Alverno outcomes are ABILITIES that
 - Involve the whole person
 - Create pathways for development
 - Can be assessed
 - Transfer across settings
 - Are continually re-evaluated and re-defined

Alverno Abilities

- Communication
- Analysis
- Problem Solving
- Valuing in Decision-Making
- Social Interaction
- Developing a Global Perspective
- Effective Citizenship
- Aesthetic Engagement

What makes sense in assessing learning outcomes:



Key Principles of Performance Assessment

Outcomes (21st Century Skills) need to

- Be developed and assessed in the context of core subject area content
- Make connections across subject areas
- Be assessed in authentic situations
- Be developmental in nature
- Be linked to quality performance criteria
- Be supported by self assessment and goal setting for continued learning

How can we make teaching practice consistent with outcomes?



"I expect you all to be independent, innovative, critical thinkers who will do exactly as I say."

InTASC Model Core Teaching Standards InTASC (2011) Standard #5: Application of Content

The teacher understands how to *connect concepts* and *use differing perspectives* to engage learners in *critical thinking*, *creativity*, and *collaborative problem solving* related to *authentic local and global issues*.

What looks different in teaching and assessment at Carmen?

- Teaching is guided by grades 9-12 learning progressions driven by Common Core and ACT College Readiness Standards
 - Faculty align curriculum with the standards over four years
- Assessments integrate both content and 21st Century skills

Carmen High School of Science and Technology Outcomes

- Describe what 21st Century skills high school level students need to demonstrate career and college readiness
- Were developed by Carmen faculty, working with subject area faculty from Alverno
 - Developmental levels appropriate to high school
 - Links to Common Core learning progressions
- Are demonstrated through authentic performance assessments, across the four years of the high school curriculum

Impact on Student Acheivement

Class of 2011 College Enrollment



Sample Assessments

- 1. Social interaction, valuing in decision making and speaking assessment for entering 9th grade students.
- 2. Effective Citizenship, valuing in decision making, analysis, and writing assessment for 10th and 11th grade chemistry students.

Closing question

- What will it take for Wisconsin high schools to work toward InTASC standard #5?
- How can we find pathways for other schools to integrate 21st century skills in the high school curriculum?

Closing Thoughts

> Everything you learn goes with you.