



Molloy Summer Institute
EDU 5900.06 Less Grading, More Assessing:
Help Students Close Their Own Gaps and Make Gains
K-12, All Content Areas (Asynchronous Online)

July 28, 2025- July 31, 2025

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Course Description:

According to Robert Stakes, “When the cook tastes the soup, that’s formative. When the guests taste the soup, that’s summative.” How do we fully integrate assessment into our instruction so that students know where they are in their learning and where they need to go next? As we plan our lessons, let’s carve out more space for our students in the formative assessment cycle. Drawing on the work of feedback and formative assessment thought leaders such as Susan Brookhart, Myron Dueck, Catlin Tucker, John Spencer, and John Hattie, participants will update their formative assessment toolboxes with smarter, useful, more efficient ways to leverage feedback and engage students in the formative learning cycle...while the soup (and the learning) is still hot.

Welcome to Welcome to Less Grading, More Assessing!

Throughout our four days together, we will immerse ourselves in current best practice designed to elevate, inspire, and facilitate more intentional assessment practices, shifting some ownership to students so that they become a greater part of the formative assessment cycle. With current research guiding our exploration, participants will enjoy a carefully-curated, high-impact playlist of engaging articles, blogs, podcasts, videos,

and practical, adaptable resources. The goal of this inspirational and informational course is for participants to start the new school year with a toolbox of formative assessment strategies, revised lesson plans and materials, and an enhanced approach to fostering a student-centered classroom brimming with effective formative assessment practices. I have a wealth of information to share, and I am eager to learn from all of you. Any questions about the course? Reach out to me at eroemer@molloy.edu.

Learning Objectives and Outcomes

Participants will:

1. increase their students' ownership of learning and growth by examining multi-media resources and research focused on empowering students to set high expectations and applying this research to current grading practices
2. understand and apply formative assessment strategies by redesigning a lesson to include multiple formative assessment opportunities, such as self-assessment check-ins, peer feedback, and teacher feedback during the lesson.
3. implement station rotation and blended learning models by designing a station rotation lesson that prioritizes student autonomy, collaboration, and continuous feedback.
4. analyze and reflect on the role of feedback in reducing learning gaps through thoughtful and lively discussion posts.
5. contribute to a class-curated toolbox of formative assessment strategies.
6. reflect on the course content and create an actionable plan for integrating student-driven assessment practices into everyday instruction, specifying how their practice has shifted to a more student-driven learning environment.

Assignments will be due each evening and will include written reflections, digital posts and interactive discussions, and revised lesson plans, rubrics, checklists, and activities. There is no required text: all articles, videos, podcasts, blogs, resources, and all materials will be linked in our Canvas Modules.

Accessing Our Course

The course will be offered online through Canvas, our online course system. All assignments, materials, and instructional modules will be on our course's page. If you have any questions, please email me at eroemer@molloy.edu.

You will need to become familiar with Canvas.

- Login prior to the first day of class, using your Molloy email username and password.
- Click the "Courses" tab (top left-hand side of the page) & select: "Less Grading, More Assessing: Help Students Close Their Own Gaps and Make Gains EDU 5900.06" in the drop-down menu.
- Check the Modules and Assignments tabs for the assignments and due dates.
- Take the Canvas Student Tour or visit the Canvas Student Quickstart Page.
- Please feel free to email with any questions you may have.

Technical Support:

- Canvas Support is accessed through the HELP feature in the lower left hand corner of Canvas. You can either call Canvas at (844) 408-6455 or use the online chat feature: both services are available 24 hours/7 days a week.
- Technology Support Services is located in Kellenberg 022 and can be reached via phone: 516.323.4800 or email: helpdesk@molloy.edu.
- The Information Commons is located on the second floor of Public Square and can be reached at 516.323.4817 or email: slewis2@molloy.edu
 - Check their website for hours: <http://www.molloy.edu/tss>