



**Grand Valley State University**

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**From the Selected Works of Debbie Morrow**

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May, 2021

# How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love Teaching & Assessment: An Epiphany in the Time of COVID

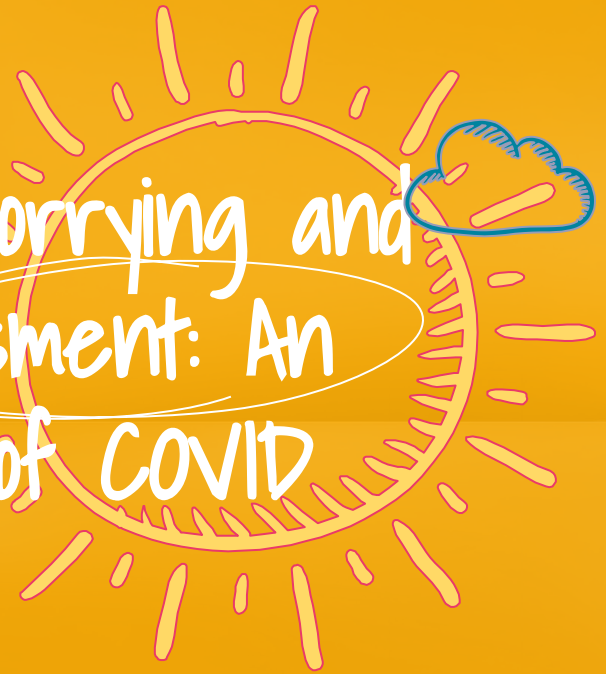
Debbie Morrow



Available at: [https://works.bepress.com/debbie\\_morrow/22/](https://works.bepress.com/debbie_morrow/22/)



How I Learned to Stop Worrying and  
Love Teaching & Assessment: An  
Epiphany in the Time of COVID



MI-ALA Annual Conference - virtual  
21 May 2021

Debbie Morrow  
Liaison Librarian - STEM  
Grand Valley State University

## Scenario - August 2020

Coordinators for a newly revised first-year course want to include information literacy instruction (Yes!!) as part of a new team research and presentation component. Engineering EGR100, previously elective, is now required, and in Fall 2020 will have 7 sections of 50-60 students each (up to 350-400 students total). Instructors for all sections will be following a common syllabus and assignment calendar. Some sections are fully online (because pandemic), others are in person in an auditorium. Class is 50 min, once a week; the IL instruction is scheduled for Week 9.

Question:

Synchronous or Asynchronous?

Vote in Chat!



# Student Learning Outcome (LO):

*"Student will be able to find one article relevant to their team's project in an appropriate database."*

## Scenario (cont.)

Students in all GV programs must pass First-Year Writing to graduate. This is generally where they get a first introduction to researching in databases, using search strategies, evaluating potential resources - the college-level basics. But there are a number of ways a student can get a WRT 150 waiver, for example if they have high AP English credentials from high school. It's great to reinforce what's covered in FYW in other IL instruction through repetition, but also great to avoid too much repetitive instruction. For my lesson, should I ...

# Question:

- A. introduce all of our engineering-related resources?
- B. simply repeat FYW material just in case?
- C. create a relevant First-Year Engineering Library Skills experience?

Vote in Chat!

## Scenario (cont.)

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Meanwhile, back at the library, some serious work has been underway to build depth and structure into our overall instruction program. In Fall 2020 we would begin piloting an “Instructional Programmatic Assessment Rubric,” and Liaisons have been requested to apply the rubric and assess the outcome of one FYW teaching session during the semester.

I’m a rebel. I also wanted to assess my Engineering 100 course, with up to 400 students, 17 response items from each ... up to 6800 data points!!



	E	F	G	H	I
1	Gathering your thoughts -- What is your team's e	Gathering your thoughts -- What is yo	Gathering your thoughts -- What are some keyw	The best way to really lea	Explore -- Begin to ge
128	For our topic, we are looking into the effects of el	How might we find a more efficient me	E-waste, pollution, recycling, electronics, techno	Yes! :)	In the scholarships an
129	Solar Energy	How might we improve the lifespan an	recyclable materials; silicon; renewable resource	Yes! :)	I find it interesting tha
130	Electronic Waste	How might we find a more efficient me	Computers, phones, waste	Yes! :)	Resources for scholar
131	Making solar energy more economical/cheaper	How might we reduce the cost of solar	solar panels; solar technologies; s	Yes! :)	I clicked on the news
132	Making an automatic water craft to help astronau	Build a locator device for the craft.	Transmitter, Unmanned, AI, GPS	Yes! :)	This is a useful tool a
133	Bringing clean water to places that need it.	How might we create a project that as	Water consumption; water collection; water crisi	Yes! :)	Understanding materi
134	Nasa eva tool attachment	How might we create an EVA suit atta	NASA, space, tools	Yes! :)	Applied Science & Te
135	Carbon Neutrality	How might we find a more efficient me	pollution,waste, technology	Yes! :)	Materials for engineer
136	Make Solar energy more affordable	How might we continue to make solar	Solar energy, solar panels, efficient, affordable,	Yes! :)	In engineering there is
137	Bringing power to 3rd world countries	How might we produce a portable, sm	Power, generation, storage, efficiency	Yes! :)	All of the options it giv
138	Personalized Learning	How can we enhance the learning exp	Personalized learning, easy learning, education,	Yes! :)	Databases and tools
139	Healthcare informatics	To find a better way to process patient	Paperwork, time, money, not a uniform system,	Yes! :)	
140	Advanced Personalized Learning	Augmented Reality and Virtual Reality	Virtual Reality; technology; classroom; learning	Yes! :)	I chose citing sources
141	Designing the tools for scientific discovery	How might we create a thruster that w	Space, thruster, reusable, adaptable, reliable,	Yes! :)	
142	Make Solar Energy Economical	How might we create a more efficient	renewable energy, efficiency, solar panels, optim	Yes! :)	I found a really interes
143	Innovating a way to make paperwork at a doctors	How might we make doctors' office vis	Electronic Medical Records; medical records sto	Yes! :)	In the Engineering pag
144	health informatics	United States	Michigan	Yes! :)	Searching my groups
145	Advancing Education	how might we re-imagine online learni	distance learning, broadband access, ease of us	Yes! :)	Getting help with Eng
146	More affordable solar energy	How might we create a more efficient	Solar Energy, affordability, practicality	Yes! :)	Shows you your librari
147	Taking progression towards the innovation and im	How might we create a thruster that w	Repair materials, NASA, Space, Thruster, Rocke	Yes! :)	The tab that offers fur
148	Designing the technology that will fuel future scie	How might we create a rocket that will	Space, harsh conditions, futuristic technology	Yes! :)	I really liked all the op
149	Revitalizing urban infrastructure.	How can we fix the public transportati	busses, potholes, asphalt, bikes, scooters, cars	Yes! :)	When you click on the
150	Better transportation infrastrurcture	To make transportation more affordabl	Busing, transportation, infrastructure	Yes! :)	I found it interesting y
151	distributing clean water	How might we distribute clean water i	distribute clean water, economical, Africa	Yes! :)	On the engineering pa
152	To provide a cheap reliable source of power to thi	How might we produce a portable, sm	Renewable Energy; Cheap Energy Source; Effici	Yes! :)	The Chemistry tab mi
153	Assess to clean water	How to get the people who are most v	Water filtration; developing countries; water illnes	Yes! :)	
154	Lack of power in third world countries	To find and develop a accessible and	lack of power, electricity,	Yes! :)	Under the scholarship
155	Ice Jams and Flooding	How might we prevent flooding caused	Ice Jams, Cold Weather, flooding	Yes! :)	Using this tool, I found
156	health informatics	Make a way to make healthcare easie	health, hospitals, doctors, healthcare,	Yes! :)	Most students follow
157					

SO MUCH DATA!

But what does it mean?

Summary Stats

Database Selection

Article Selection

Confidence

Fall '20

+

Question:

Fight? Or Flight? Or Freeze?

Vote in Chat!



"And then the clouds broke, and  
the sun shone through!"

Need to see The Big Picture -- and then look at the trees.  
Which 'trees' do you want to assess?

# Rubric for Programmatic Assessment of Instruction Program

Objectives	Emerging (1)	Progressing (2)	Refining (3)	Accomplished (4)
<b>Inquire</b>	Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor	Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor	Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor	Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor
<b>Access</b>	Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor	Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor	Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor	Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor
<b>Evaluate</b>	Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor	Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor	Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor	Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor
<b>Synthesis</b>	Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor	Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor	Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor	Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor
<b>Cite</b>	Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor	Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor	Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor	Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor
<b>Manage emotional states in research process</b>	Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua. Sit amet cursus sit amet dictum.	Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua. Sit amet cursus sit amet dictum.	Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua. Sit amet cursus sit amet dictum.	Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua. Sit amet cursus sit amet dictum.

The details in each cell are intentionally omitted in this graphic.



	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Gathering your thoughts -- What is your team's Project Statement? enter it here	Explore -- In the Engineering Subject Guide, locate the 'Databases & Tools' tab. In the box with the title "GVSU's Engineering and Technology Databases," read through the names and descriptions of the databases.	Codes			Codes: Access 0 - no data, or n/a 1 - Emerging 2 - Progressing 3 - Refining

Example:

"How might we reduce the cost of solar panels so we can encourage more consumers/families to switch to solar energy"

"Applied science and technology abstracts because it contains articles related to energy related disciplines"

Rubric: ACCESS  
"Matches information needs ... to search tools"  
= Progressing (2)

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
1	<b>Confidence:</b>				<b>Database Selection:</b>				<b>Article Selection:</b>		
2											
3	<b>Access:</b>				1	35			1	16	
4	Confident	89			2	100			2	148	
5	Pretty good	63			3	16			3	6	
6	OK	24			0	33			0	14	
7	So-so	3									
8	Helpless	3									
9											
10	<b>Explore:</b>										
11	Confident	71									
12	Pretty good	70									
13	OK	32									
14	So-so	6									
15	Helpless	3									
16											
17	<b>Select:</b>										
18	Confident	60									
19	Pretty good	79									
20	OK	32									
21	So-so	6									
22	Helpless	4									
23											
24											

63% at 2 or higher

84% at 2 or higher

Summary Stats tab of the spreadsheet

# Takeaways

4 things I understand better about doing instruction  
assessment now!

## Assessment Takeaways

- 1) Assessment can be selective
- 2) Assessment coding is challenging
- 3) “Backward Design” is powerful
- 4) You don’t have to be afraid of assessment!





Thanks!

Any questions?

You can find me at [morrowd@gvsu.edu](mailto:morrowd@gvsu.edu)

## Resources

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- ❏ “Backwards Design” - a process informed by *Understanding by Design* (2005) and other books by Grant Wiggins & Jay McTighe. Find many resources on the [ASCD website](#).
- ❏ [“Instructional Programmatic Assessment Rubric” - One-page version](#). 2020. Draft/Work-in-Progress. Link shared with permission of Maya Hobscheid, Instructional Design Librarian, Grand Valley State University.
- ❏ [“Accessing Information Resources.”](#) 2020. Library instruction exercise, PDF version. Link shared with permission of Debbie Morrow, Liaison Librarian, Grand Valley State University.

## Credits

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Special thanks to all the people who made and released these awesome resources for free:

- ▣ Presentation template by SlidesCarnival
- ▣ Photographs by Unsplash
- ▣ Backgrounds by Pixeden