The Importance of Student Buy-in to Portfolio Assessment

NIU School of Nursing

Nancy Oldenburg | Brad Peters
Student Buy-in to Portfolio Assessment

What you’ll learn:

➢ 7 ways to earn student trust ➔ Brad
   Take-aways from a 20-year portfolio assessment program

➢ “Repurposing” portfolios for careers ➔ Nancy
Take-aways from a 20-year history:

1. Make sure assessment is authentic
   • 1994—Required Personal Professional Beliefs paper
   • Collected assignments but didn’t assess them
   • Assessed 10% of a cohort

2. Develop criteria that measure what students actually learn
   • Formulate diagnosis
   • Establish therapeutic interventions
   • Evaluate interventions & conclusions
   • Develop logical arguments
   • Use professional vocabulary & conventions
   • Reflect on learning
3. Discuss what you want to assess with your students
   - Suggest artifacts, e.g., care plan, concept map, research paper, intervention/evaluation
   - Outline reflective letter on strengths & improvements
   - Assess 100% cohort & collect longitudinal data

4. Give meaningful feedback to students
   - Comment on individual class assignments
   - Identify strengths and weaknesses of student cohort

5. Get meaningful feedback from students
   - Systematize protocols
   - Explain data
   - Make portfolio count
   - Provide specific cover letter instructions
   - Explain purpose of portfolios
   - Standardize citation & conventions
6. Recognize assessment is a dialogue among students & professors
   - Make students part of the portfolio committee
   - Involve student leaders in portfolio process

7. Use students’ portfolio outcomes to improve instruction
   - Debrief after ranking portfolios
   - Revise & align assignments with criteria
   - Adapt teaching practices to “portfolio teaching”
   - Act on data
Professional Portfolios

1. Evidence of skills highlighted on resumé
   - Critical thinking
   - Evidence-based practice
   - Problem solving
   - Communication

2. Evidence of personal attributes
   - Organization
   - Dedication
   - Passion
   - Work ethic

3. Competitive edge when applying for internships & positions
Student Buy-in to Portfolio Assessment

QUESTIONS?