Beginning with the End in Mind
Designing Project Learning Experiences to Develop Specific Skills and Abilities

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Workshop Objectives

Participants will be able to:

- Identify crucial skills students should acquire from taking your course and determine evidence needed to assess progress
- Determine activities, and support needed within your course to help students throughout skill development
- Develop an action plan for integrating project-based learning (PBL) into your course
What is holding you back?

REFLECTION:

• What fears do you have about PBL?

• What challenges or barriers are keeping you from integrating PBL into your course?
Backwards Design

1. Identify desired outcomes
   - Specific skills
2. Determine evidence
   - Assessment tasks
3. Plan instruction
   - Learning events
Essential Elements of Project-Based Learning

- Challenging Problem or Question
- Sustained Inquiry
- Authenticity
- Student Voice & Choice
- Reflection
- Critique & Revision
- Public Product
Skills and Abilities

**REFLECTION:**
What should your students be able to DO as a result of PBL?

- Observable
- Measurable
Skills and Abilities

DISCUSSION:

• What similarities are evident between your identified skills and what employers are seeking?

• Where are the gaps?
Assessment

DISCUSSION:
What evidence of student learning will allow you to determine that the skills have been developed?

 Observable
 Measurable
DISCUSSION:

What activities, assignments, and instruction will help students develop the skills?
DISCUSSION:

• How will students be informed of their progress?

• What support can be built in to support diverse learners?
Overcoming Fears and Challenges

REFLECTION:

• What fears/challenges can be addressed within your PBL design?

• Where do you need more support for using PBL?

DISCUSSION:

• Strategies for common challenges
Getting Started

- Start small
- Use backwards design
- Create a road map
- Focus on process, not technology
Moving Forward

ACTION PLAN:

Identify the next 3 steps you will take to integrate PBL into your course