Assessment Strategies and Tips for Alternative Teaching

Exams in Canvas		
Strategy	*Why does this work?*	*What do students gain?*
1. Student-generated question banks	This can be a collaborative group project, or a structured individual assignment	Students both gain and display content mastery by developing test questions
2. Content-focused feedback in ALL answer choices (right and wrong)	Creates a process of knowledge reinforcement explaining to students *why* they chose the right or wrong answer	Helps students evaluate their decision-making process and activate prior knowledge from answering questions
3. Answering test questions with justification	Helps students strategize how they get to choosing their answers, drawing upon content recall to justify answer choices	When students are asked to justify their answers, they can learn to use contextual clues and evaluate how they interpreted content correctly or incorrectly.
4. Back to the basics: Provide an assessment study guide and/or student-led study sessions	Encourage group and collaborative work to allow students to help each other when preparing for a test; students may learn from each other	Using socialization to help enhance ideas and concepts learned in class, students can make affective connections to content for better recall on a test

Remember that authenticity is more important than tradition. Be sure to articulate test requirements (open note, calculators, etc), dates and times, instructions, and expectations well in advance. **Pro tip:** State how many of each type of questions students can expect (i.e. 10 multiple choice, 6 T/F, etc). This could help ease student anxiety and result in better scores!

Multiple Means of Expression		
Strategy	*Why does this work?*	*What do students gain?*
1. Portfolio of work with a reflective essay.	Students can gather what they believe is their best work throughout the semester and showcase it, also evaluating their work, promoting autonomy and self-evaluation	From the reflective essay, students can gather a sense of what they've learned and how far they've progressed this semester; teaching students how to self-assess
2. Develop/Design - Cumulative project	Students can integrate creativity in a presentation, fact sheet, video, or other project to show content mastery	Students can apply real-world problem-solving and strategy implementation, while aligning the project with crucial components of the

		content they learned to back up their application
3. Traditional Paper	Some students do very well drafting research papers; tactile learners appreciate this option to write out their thoughts and ideas	Create case-based, problem-solving, hypothetical questions for students to apply content-based solutions and applications, improving writing skills

Communicate and publish rubrics and expectations; provide clear instructions and how/when students can expect feedback. **Pro tip:** Reach out to LTC for quick links on technologies and solutions to help set up these strategies in Canvas and utilize them efficiently.

Assessment Through Peer-to-Peer Socialization		
Strategy	*Why does this work?*	*What do students gain?*
1. Group Projects	While demonstrating content mastery, students develop additional collaboration and communication skills	Utilizing critical thinking and creativity, projects could include recorded presentations, teach-back projects, brochures/fact sheets, videos, etc.
2. Peer-to-peer Evaluations/Feedback	Students can learn to communicate constructive feedback and evaluate projects/outcomes through a content-centered framework	The instructor has a unique opportunity to help develop soft skills for peer evaluators and help evaluate the projects created, and provide students with more robust feedback
3. Synchronous pointed discussion/debate	In a group effort, students can work through a complex problem or debate, with instructor oversight to enhance oral skills while applying content	Provide students with written case-based or point/counterpoint questions, allowing them to work in advance of a scheduled synchronous meeting time, applying real-world strategies

Creating opportunities for peer-to-peer interaction reduces feelings of isolation and increases active learning potential; increased peer and instructor presence promotes humanized approach to remote teaching. **Pro tip:** Allow flexibility in assessment to promote group-work agreement. Encourage a group contract so students know what to expect from their peers and themselves.

It is important to remember, you are not alone and the LEARN Center and LTC are staffed to help you prepare authentic, meaningful assessments that both engage the students and uphold the integrity of your course content.