#### Quality Assurance in Assessment

# Using Portfolio Assessment to Align Teaching, Learning and Assessment

Agnes Tiwari PhD, RN, FAAN
School of Nursing
The University of Hong Kong



為本林小派の西天路 理学子有照然 木百年

乙面如夏賀婆母常不慶典 多歌雪題

#### Using Portfolio Assessment to Align Teaching, Learning and Assessment

- What portfolio assessment is
- Portfolio assessment in the context of outcome-based teaching and learning
- Portfolio assessment in practice
- Practical considerations

## The concept of portfolio is not new



#### Portfolio Assessment

- Interest in the use of portfolios for assessment since late 1980s
- In search for more "authentic" assessment practices
- As an alternative to the "traditional" assessment methods





# Defining Portfolio Assessment

- "Collection of student work that demonstrates achievement or improvement" (Stiggins 1994)
- "A portfolio is a collection of evidence that is gathered together to show a person's learning journey over time and to demonstrate their abilities" (Butler 2006)

### Some key Characteristics

- Collection of student work
- Purposeful selection of evidence of learning
- Justification for the selected portfolio items



Article

# From process to outcome: the effect of portfolio assessment on student learning

Agnes Tiwari and Catherine Tang



#### What motivated us to use portfolio assessment?

#### Teacher:

Objectives — Teaching activities — Assessment

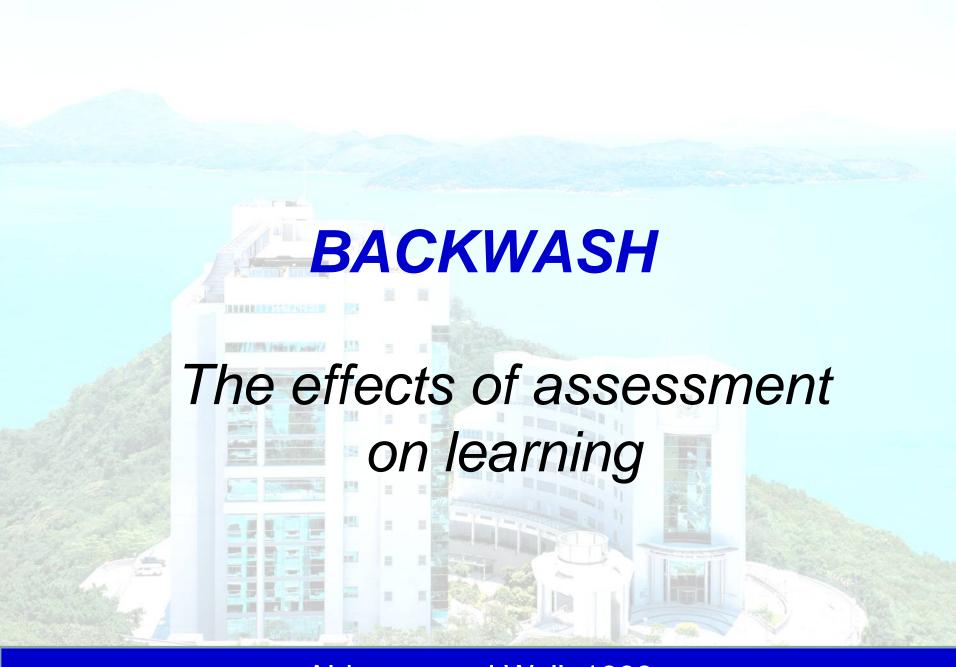
#### Student:

Assessment — → Learning activities — → Outcomes

Assessment determines what and how students learn



Students learn what they think they will be tested on



#### Negative Backwash Effect

#### Student:

### Assessment —→Learning activities —→ Outcomes

# Perceived low cognitive level assessment tasks Surface approach to learning acceptable outcomes and applications



#### Positive Backwash Effect

#### Student:

### Assessment —→Learning activities —→ Outcomes

# Perceived high cognitive level assessment tasks Deep approach to learning outcomes that could reasonably be expected

# Aligning...

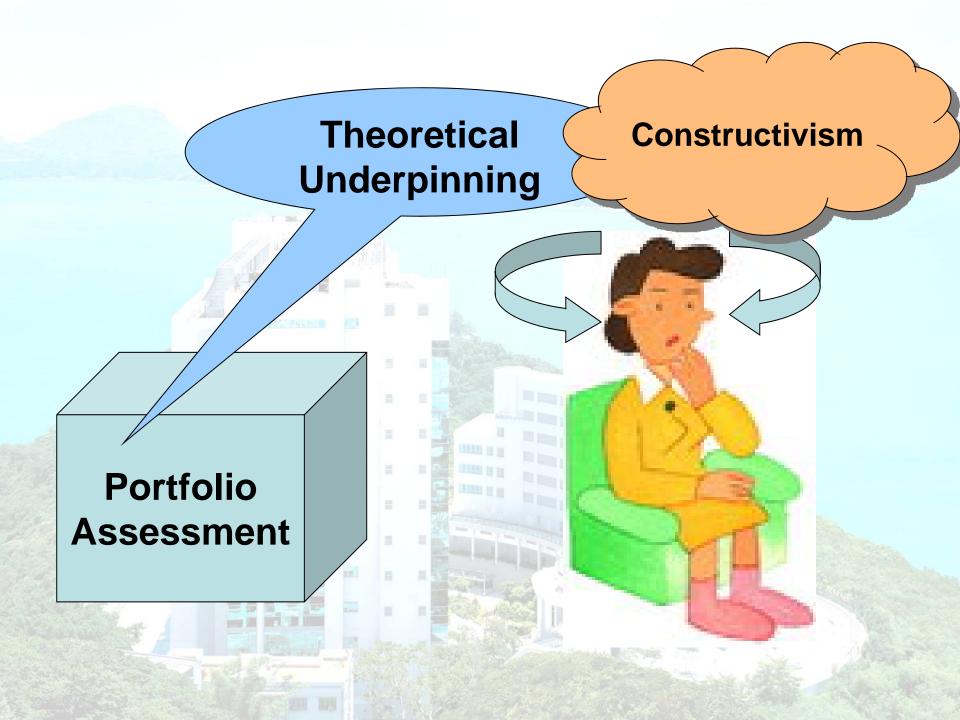
**Teaching** Learning **Assessment** & Learning **Objectives** Activities

19

# Outcome-based Teaching and Learning

Teaching/ Intended Assessment Learning Learning **Tasks Activities Outcomes** 

20



#### **Constructivism**

- Students construct their own knowledge from the teaching/learning experience
- Teaching is <u>not</u> a matter of transmitting knowledge
- But of engaging students in active learning, building their knowledge in terms of what they already understand

# Portfolio as a means of aligning teaching/learning and assessment

- 1. Identify the intended learning outcomes
- Create a learning environment using teaching/learning activities that would bring out the intended learning outcomes
- 3. Select portfolio as the assessment task to judge how well students' performance meets the criteria
- 4. Transform the judgment into grading criteria







LI KA SHING FACULTY OF MEDICINE SCHOOL OF NURSING

Master of Nursing Year I

NURS 7101
PHILOSOPHY & SCIENCE OF NURSING

COURSE MANUAL

# Intended Learning Outcomes

At the end of this module, students should be able to:

- **ILO1** Explain the nature of the philosophy of nursing and relate it to the western and Chinese philosophical context
- ILO2 Describe and reflect on the development of nursing knowledge
- ILO3 Explain the historical evolution of nursing science
- **ILO4** Analyse the metaparadigm of nursing in terms of nursing, health, client and environment
- ILO5 Reflect on and evaluate the contemporary perspectives of nursing
- **ILO6** Analyse and theorize the interrelationships among nursing theory, research, practice and education

## Teaching and Learning Activities

- Mini-lecture
- Socratic discussion
- Peer-led think-aloud evaluation
- Case studies
- Reflective logs
- Concept maps
- Context-based problem-based learning
- Spontaneous collaborative learning





#### Assessment Tasks

- Two items of work (2000-2500 words/item)
- Covering all the ILOs
- Provide justification for the selected items

# Judging Performance

Table 13.8 Holistic grading for the assessment portfolio in nursing

| Grade      | Descriptiont | Understanding demonstrated                           | Evidence provided (examples)  |  |  |  |  |
|------------|--------------|--|---|--|--|--|--|
| A<br>≥70   | Excellent    | Understanding at an extended abstract level          | Theorize about a topic<br>Generalize to new applications<br>Reflect on experience                   |  |  |  |  |
| B<br>60–69 | Good         | Understanding at a relational and application level  | Apply theory to practice<br>Recognize good and bad<br>applications                                  |  |  |  |  |
| C<br>53–59 | Fair         | Understanding at a multistructural declarative level | Describe nursing knowledge<br>Explain nursing philosophy<br>Comprehend selected nursing<br>theories |  |  |  |  |
| D<br>50-52 | Pass         | Understanding at the lowest nominal level            | Name the concepts or theories<br>Focus on one conceptual issue                                      |  |  |  |  |
| F<br>≤ 49  | Fail         | Fail to achieve the stated learning objectives       | Miss key issues<br>Demonstrate erroneous<br>understanding   |  |  |  |  |

#### Intended Learning Outcomes

- Must be clearly articulated and understood by students
- Use verbs (e.g., identify, describe, explain, analyze, evaluate, apply, reflect, theorize) to indicate the levels of performance (understanding) students are expected to achieve

- Teaching and Learning Activities
  - Large classes or small groups
  - Inside and outside the classroom
  - Teacher-led or peer-led
  - Planned activities and spontaneous collaborative learning

#### Assessment Tasks

- How to demonstrate that the intended learning outcomes have been achieved?
- Number of portfolio items
- Formative versus summative assessment

|   | 1000 | The Party of the P |               | III III | <br>Dec. 121 | 1222 | n |               |
|---|------|--|---------------|---------|--------------|------|---|---------------|
|   |      |  |               |         |              |      |   |               |
| Š |      |  |               |         |              |      |   |               |
|   |      |  | $\Xi$         |         |              |      |   | (2)           |
|   |      |  | Portfolio (1) |         |              |      |   | Portfolio (2) |
| Z |      |  | Port          |         |              |      |   | Port          |
|   |      |  |               |         |              |      |   |               |
|   |      |  |               |         |              |      |   |               |
| 施 |      |  |               |         |              |      |   |               |

#### Judging performance

- How to show qualitative differences in performance? (judged against grading criteria)
- How to derive the final grade?

#### Does it work?

- "Chinese students will not like the idea of having to make decision about what to submit as evidence of their learning"
- "Students are not interested in what intended learning outcomes are"
- "Students do not understand the different levels of understanding"
- "Portfolio assessment is time-consuming"

#### Does it work?

- > 10 cohorts of students
- > 6 different courses (clinical and nonclinical)
- Students performances (on average)
  - -> 35% Grade A
  - One failure
- Student evaluation
  - Course effectiveness score 70+
  - Positive academic and affective outcomes
- External examiners
  - Positive evaluation

# In the beginning, a small ambition



#### Negative Backwash Effect

#### Student:

### Assessment —→Learning activities —→ Outcomes

# Perceived low cognitive level assessment tasks Surface approach to learning outcomes and applications Minimally acceptable outcomes and applications

#### Positive Backwash Effect

#### Student:

### Assessment —→Learning activities —→ Outcomes

# Perceived high cognitive level assessment tasks Deep approach to learning The very best outcomes that could reasonably be expected







#### AMBITION

Aim high...but remember the farther you go, the more you will have to carry.

# Thank you!

