

## Transcript: “Alternatives to exams”

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This resource outlines some alternatives to exams.

Naturally, any assessment needs to be appropriate for the learning outcomes and the learning that is being assessed.

Traditional exams aren't always the best way to assess students' learning, and alternative methods can give them a much more authentic experience.

There are numerous written methods which students could be assessed by, such as online discussion boards, wikis, posters or multiple choice questions (MCQs).

Oral assessments could also be used- for example, for role plays or as an alternative to writing when doing reviews (e.g. of books, websites, journal articles), or presenting case studies.

Practical assessment methods could include students being observed, submitting lab books or reports, or conducting a performance.

Work placements are an excellent way of generating authentic assessments, perhaps through learning logs, blogs, or a trip to the Simulation Centre.

And problem based assessment could be conducted through reflective diaries, portfolios or group research projects.

This resource draws upon the University of Reading's excellent “A-Z of Assessment Methods”. Find it at [tinyurl.com/y9omfvn](http://tinyurl.com/y9omfvn)

And finally, be creative! There are a whole host of assessment methods out there, so you're bound to find something that works for your course, your students, and that speaks to the Education Strategy pillars.