**February 2024**

*Please share with your faculty:*

**Rethinking student learning goals and assessments in light of AI**

The increasing accessibility and use of AI among students has created an immediate need to rethink student learning goals and objectives, and the way in which students are assessed. [Bloom’s taxonomy](https://bloomstaxonomy.net/) provides a useful framework for guiding educators in their development of student learning goals. At the bottom of the hierarchy are lower-level cognitive processes including knowing and understanding information. Focusing student learning goals and assessments on these lower-level cognitive processes makes it more likely for students to rely on AI. For example, if a student learning objective in a history class is for students to summarize key events relating to the Revolutionary War, then they can easily turn to AI to produce this summary. Not only is a student’s use of AI for this purpose a breach of academic integrity, but the student is also not achieving the learning objective. If, however, student learning goals and assessments are designed to target higher levels of Bloom’s taxonomy, which include applying, analyzing, evaluating, and creating original work, AI becomes less relevant for these purposes. Performance-based assessments, which ask students to apply material, create an original product, or perform a task, not only facilitate students’ attainment of these higher order cognitive goals, but also prevent students from being able to depend on AI for completing the assignment.

**Check out!** Aoush and Farhat (2023). The power of authentic assessment in the age of AI. *Faculty Focus.* Retrieved Feb. 5, 2024 from <https://www.facultyfocus.com/articles/educational-assessment/the-power-of-authentic-assessment-in-the-age-of-ai/>

**Please share examples** Please share examples of how your program uses performance based assessments to target students’ attainment of higher order cognitive skills and I will feature those examples on [YU’s Learning Assessment Website](http://yu.edu/provost/assessment/).

**Important reminder:** If you have not already submitted your Fall 2023 assessment reports which were due on Jan. 19, please do so as soon as possible. Thank you.