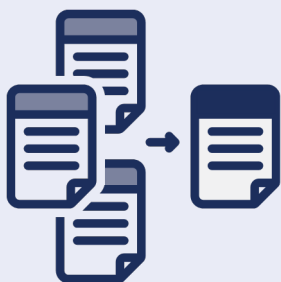


What are Assignment Routines?

Assignment routines are the normal/repeated ways you introduce, conduct, collect, or end assignments. If you select this focus area, we challenge you to adopt routines that optimize your assignments for learning mindset support. Specifically, we challenge you to carefully consider how you might incorporate one or more of these routines into your course.

Why use an Assignment Routine?

Assignment routines can be powerful tools for cultivating students' learning mindsets. When designed intentionally, they help students see that their abilities can grow through effort and learning strategies (Growth Mindset), recognize the personal and real-world importance of what they're learning (Purpose & Relevance), and feel connected to a supportive academic community (Sense of Belonging). Thoughtfully reimagining these routines encourages continuous improvement, strengthens metacognitive awareness and resilience, and promotes meaningful engagement and achievement.



Practice Overview

This document provides brief overviews of several key resources related to Assignment Routines.

Resources for Further Reading

Hulleman, C. S., & Harackiewicz, J. M. (2021). The utility-value intervention. In G. M. Walton & A. J. Crum (Eds.), *Handbook of wise interventions: How social psychology can help people change* (pp. 100–125). The Guilford Press.

Orlando, J. (2021, July 28). Use revise and resubmit instead of extra credit. Faculty Focus. <https://www.facultyfocus.com/articles/educational-assessment/use-revise-and-resubmit-instead-of-extra-credit/>

Winkelmes, M.A. (2025). TILT Higher Ed: Transparency in learning and teaching. <https://www.tilthighered.com/>

Palmer, M. S., Gravett, E. O., & LaFleur, J. (2018). Measuring transparency: A learning-focused assignment rubric. *To Improve the Academy: A Journal of Educational Development*, 37(2), 181–192. <https://doi.org/10.3998/tia.17063888.0037.205>

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More Resources



1. A Build Value and Connections Routine

How are you normalizing students connecting their learning to what they value? Regularly ask students to select a concept or idea from the course content and apply it to their lives.

2. An Assignment Framing Routine

Are students viewing your assignments as opportunities to grow and strengthen their learning mindsets? You can add short directions, headers, or footers that frame assignments around key motivational themes that can further reinforce Growth Mindset, Purpose and Relevance, or Sense of Belonging while working on that assignment.

3. A Revise & Resubmit Routine

Are students who perform poorly on your assignments developing a Growth Mindset through the experience? Give students opportunities to revise their work, reflect on their process, and resubmit.

4. A Transparency in Teaching and Learning (TiLT) Routine

Do students clearly understand what's expected on your assignments? When expectations are unclear, students may doubt their ability to succeed. TiLTing encourages not only clarifying how to be successful but also explaining why the assignment has purpose and meaning. By leading with transparency, you can reduce uncertainty and strengthen students' Growth Mindset and sense of Purpose & Relevance.

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More Resources 