Assignment 2

Alternative assessment

Alternative assessment refers to nontraditional assessment methods. Such assessment methods are often applied complex knowledge and performances and engage students in higher-level thinking and authentic performances while simultaneously permitting reliable scoring and manageable record-keeping. Most frequently, alternative assessment is used as a complement to rather than a replacement for traditional objective tests. Objective tests are an efficient way to assess students’ knowledge of rote facts, whereas alternative assessment strategies move beyond such testing and meet the learning styles of more students. Alternative assessment is closely linked to curriculum planning and instructional methods. Thus the push for constructivist learning environments, authentic learning experiences, collaboration, and facilitation of higher-order thinking skills has fueled interest in alternative assessment.

Alternative assessment, I think that is one kind of student centered approach or active leaning but this system bases on performance and thinking related to the lecture. Eg. The teacher teaches basic knowledge of something (isolation of bacteria from soil), then she instructs the students how to do and gave facilities for the performance work. The students finished their work teacher assess they copy their friends or not, ask question rely on their work. If their work is not complete or wrong, the teacher ask why? .The students think about What is ? Because of. Till they get and understand the complete their work. The complete work evidence (Paper) stored as a record.

Alternative assessment strategies often involve the use of rubrics. Rubrics are presented in a matrix format with performance levels in the top row, performance indicators along the left column, and evaluation criteria in the cells. Teachers often involve students in the creation of rubrics so that they have a vested interest in the learning experience. A properly designed rubric provides enough guidance for students to know what is expected of them but enough generality to encourage creativity and higher- level thinking.

So the students like alternative assessment because they can create and think freedom bases on their knowledge.

Four common alternative assessment strategies that can be enhanced by educational technology are

(1) performance-based assessment;

(2) project assessment;

(3) portfolio assessment; and

(4) journal assessment.

(1)Performance-Based Assessment

Teachers observe students performing a particular task such as using science laboratory equipment or giving an oral presentation. Educational technology can enhance this type of alternative assessment by providing means of record-keeping through spreadsheets and video technology. Video technology also enables students to review their work and for teachers to share this work with parents.

Eg. In Aquaculture biotechnology, hatchery operation of prawns, means that prawn can breed in artificial environment .teacher can’t demonstrate that because it need building ,seawater ,freshwater, pump, oxygen supply ,specimen and cost. So we show them video. Educational technology can also enhance this type of assessment through the use of simulations. Students may manipulate a variety of variables related to maintaining an ecosystem, managing a city, or negotiating with other countries. Such simulations enable students to demonstrate competency through performances that may otherwise be impossible for fiscal, managerial, or safety reasons.

(2)Project Assessment

Students are given a project to complete related to integrated curriculum goals. Ideal projects simulate real-life situations, are rich in design and long-term, encourage the development of multiple responses, facilitate collaboration and individual accountability, and encourage creativity, knowledge integration, and planning skills.

Eg. Students have project work at the end of exam, the project relate to the whole curriculum which are they study in all their specialized subject. The students are go and work in Industry as real workers and have many experience in this project work. Educational technology can enhance this type of assessment by providing a variety of formats for final products or presentations (i.e., text, graphics, multimedia, video, etc.) by enabling communication with subject-matter experts and by allowing research opportunities beyond those available in the school library.

(3)Portfolio Assessment

Portfolio assessment involves student’s purposefully selecting works that show effort and achievement in specified areas. Portfolios can be used to assess progress over time.

Eg. We take record the students when they arrived in our university. These records can be used to encourage student reflection and provide summative evaluation information. Some educational programs require graduating students to complete a portfolio documenting the teaching standards they have met throughout the program. Biotechnology have to study microbiology, principal of biology and molecular biology when they are in elementary standard. So they easy to study to specialized field (Industrial, Aquaculterature, Food, Agricultural biotechnology…).Therefore we need to keep all records as portfolio.

(4) Journal Assessment

This type of assessment involves students’ expressions and reflections and is frequently ongoing. Journal assessment can be highly structured, with strict guidelines and directions, or open-ended, with minimal direction. Students are frequently asked to keep writing journals where they document ideas they have for stories or poems, or math journals where they explain how they came to solve particular problems.

Educational technology can be used to allow students to share journals with others beyond the four walls of the classroom. In our university have ‘Association of Art and Literature’, The students can write their feeling ,stories and some articles .It is also support for multicenter education.

Recently, our education system we need assess not only tradition teaching (lecture methods) the alternative assessment system (Multicenter teaching).