

## Formative Assessment: Deepening Understanding Syllabus

This course gets at the heart of formative assessment, beyond the basics. The course begins with a lesson about understanding. What are we looking for when we say that we want students to understand a concept? Many educators suggest that if students can apply what they've learned, they're on their way to understanding the content.

With that definition of understanding as a guide, the following modules delve more deeply into the kinds of activities that allow students to apply what they've learned. They also review the variety of formative assessments that enable teachers to evaluate whether, how much, and what students are learning. The results of these formative assessments provide teachers with the student learning data they need to plan their next instructional steps.

### Course Objectives

After completing this course, you should be able to

#### Module 1

- Understand the need to teach for and assess creative and critical thinking.
- Understand the need to teach for and assess deep content knowledge.

#### Module 2

- Understand the need to assess knowledge and skill in combination.
- Explain the need for actionable pre-assessment.

### Module 3

- Survey a variety of formative assessment strategies that can inform classroom instruction.
- Make instructional decisions based on data yielded by formative assessments.

### Module 4

- Understand how effective questioning can yield important formative assessment data.
- Understand how effective student discussions can yield important formative assessment data.

### Module 5

- Understand the uses and limits of testing as a formative assessment tool.
- Understand the uses of cooperative learning as a formative assessment tool.

### Module 6

- Understand ways that students can track and manage their progress.
- Understand ways that students can evaluate their progress.

## Course Outline

<b>Module 1</b>	<b>The Need for Critical and Creative Thinking</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Module Welcome</li><li>• Reading: Creative and Critical Thinking</li><li>• Video: How to Engage Students in Critical Thinking</li><li>• Reading: <i>Educational Leadership</i>: All Our Students Thinking</li><li>• Reading: <i>Educational Leadership</i>: Energizing Learning</li><li>• Check for Understanding</li><li>• Module 1 Review</li></ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Application: Looking at the Common Core 1</li><li>• Journal</li></ul>
<b>Module 2</b>	<b>Assessing Like a Coach</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Module Welcome</li><li>• Reading: <i>Educational Leadership</i>: A Process—Not a Test</li><li>• Video: Technology and Formative Assessment</li><li>• Reading: Attributes of Authentic Assessment</li><li>• Check for Understanding</li><li>• Module 2 Review</li><li>• Application: Looking at the Common Core 2</li><li>• Journal</li></ul>
<b>Module 3</b>	<b>Assessing Like a Jazz Musician</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Module Welcome</li><li>• Reading: Assessing Like a Jazz Musician</li><li>• Reading: <i>Educational Leadership</i>: Classroom Assessment—Minute by Minute, Day by Day</li><li>• Video: The Power of Formative Assessment to Advance Learning</li><li>• Reading: Using Data to Inform Instruction</li><li>• Check for Understanding</li><li>• Module 3 Review</li><li>• Application: Looking at the Common Core 3</li><li>• Journal</li></ul>
<b>Module 4</b>	<b>Assessing Like Socrates</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Module Welcome</li><li>• Reading: Effective Questioning</li><li>• Reading: <i>Educational Leadership</i>: Communities of Thinking</li><li>• Reading: <i>Educational Leadership</i>: Socratic Seminars: Engaging Students in Intellectual Discourse</li><li>• Video: Conduct Successful Socratic Seminars</li><li>• Check for Understanding</li><li>• Module 4 Review</li><li>• Application: Communities of Thinking</li><li>• Journal</li></ul>

<b>Module 5</b>	<b>Assessing Like a Carpenter</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Module Welcome</li> <li>• Reading: The Uses of Tests</li> <li>• Video: The Power of Formative Assessment to Advance Learning</li> <li>• Reading: Cooperative Learning Structures and Whole-Class Techniques</li> <li>• Reading: <i>Educational Leadership</i>: Peers Helping Peers</li> <li>• Check for Understanding</li> <li>• Module 5 Review</li> <li>• Application: Writing Test Items and Cooperative Learning Activities</li> <li>• Journal</li> </ul>
<b>Module 6</b>	<b>Showing What They Know</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Module Welcome</li> <li>• Reading: Student Progress Reports</li> <li>• Video: Actively Involving Students</li> <li>• Reading: Student Rubrics</li> <li>• Reading: <i>Educational Leadership</i>: Self-Assessment Through Rubrics</li> <li>• Check for Understanding</li> <li>• Module 6 Review</li> <li>• Application: Student Self-Evaluation</li> <li>• Journal</li> </ul>