

# Evaluating Educational Innovation Projects



## Purposes of Assessment & Evaluation

- Identify strengths and weaknesses of an innovation
- Identify and address issues of implementation
- Determine effectiveness of the activity or program
- Make improvements in the field

## Evaluating Process and Outcomes

- **Formative or Process Assessment**

- Focuses on the implementation
- Helps to make mid-course corrections
- Can help explain outcomes

- **Summative or Impact Evaluation**

- Assesses the outcome of the program or project
- Focus on whether or not stated goals were achieved
- Often requires pre-post measures and/or a control group

## Assessment Question Domains



## Writing Useful Evaluation Questions

- Relevant and Realistic
- Specific
- “Measurable”

## Some Sample Questions

### FORMATIVE

- Are students actively engaged in the experimental activities?
- How are students using the new online resources we have created?
- Are students enjoying the activities?
- Do students

### SUMMATIVE

- Did students learn the course content? (better than when it is taught the old way?)
- Did X % of students complete the activities?
- Are students able to apply new skills or ways of thinking...?
- Are students more likely to pursue this major/field of study?

## So How Do We Answer The Questions?

# With DATA

### Possible Data Sources/Measures

Data Source	Attitudes/ Opinions	Engagement/ Behavior	Knowledge/ Learning
Surveys	✓	✓	
Tests			✓
Student Work			✓
Interviews or Focus Groups	✓	✓	✓
Observation Protocols		✓	✓
Online Analytics		✓	
Administrative Records		✓	✓