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Course Title: Beyond the Worksheet - Canva Assessments to Inspire Creativity

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Course Description
<p>This professional development course is designed for educators across all grade levels and subject areas who have a foundational understanding of Canva and are looking to enhance their assessment strategies. The course focuses on harnessing Canva's versatile tools to design engaging, visually appealing, and pedagogically effective assessments that go beyond traditional formats. Participants will explore innovative methods to create formal and alternative assessments, transforming how they measure student learning. Through hands-on activities and real-world examples, educators will learn how to utilize Canva's features—such as templates, multimedia integration, and interactive elements—to develop assessments that foster creativity, critical thinking, and student engagement. By the end of the course, teachers will have a toolkit of dynamic assessment strategies that can be tailored to diverse learning needs and instructional goals.</p>

Format
<p>This course will be offered online through Canvas, the Molloy University online course system. You will need to become familiar with Canvas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Log in using your Molloy email username and password.• Click the “Courses” tab (top left-hand side of the page) and select this course from the drop-down menu.

- Log in prior to the course to ensure that your account has been set up correctly.
- Take the Canvas Student Tour or visit the Canvas Student Quickstart page.
- Canvas Support is accessed through the “Help” feature in the lower left-hand corner of Canvas. You can either call Canvas at (844) 408-6455 or use the online chat feature. Both services are available 24/7. Technology Support Services is located in Kellenberg 022 and can be reached via phone at 516-323-4800 or at helpdesk@molloy.edu. The Information Commons is located on the second floor of Public Square and can be reached via phone at 516-323-4817 or email at slewis2@molloy.edu. Check their website for hours: <http://molloy.edu/tss>.

Dates and Times to Remember


While an online course gives you the flexibility to complete the work when it is most convenient for you, please remember you must submit your work by the dates and times listed in the “Assignment” section.

Grading

Students are expected to participate by responding to the instructor and classmates with thoughtful, professional responses. You are encouraged to share resources and ask questions. Any assignments submitted after the allotted due date and time will have a point deducted for each day it is incomplete.

Communication Procedures and Contact Hours

If you have any questions or concerns, please email me at KHolzweiss@molloy.edu.

Assessment Number	Assessments
1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sign up for free Canva educator account. 2. Complete the following Canva certifications: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Canva for the Classroom b. Canva Design Skills for Students c. Teacher Essentials d. AI in the Classroom
2	<p>Formative assessments are designed to monitor student learning and provide ongoing feedback that can be used by instructors to improve their teaching and by students to improve their learning. Canva's visual nature is excellent for quick checks and engagement. Create a formative assessment from the list below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Exit Tickets: Quick visual summaries of key takeaways from a lesson. Students can design a simple graphic or even a "social media post" to summarize. https://www.teachhub.com/professional-development/2024/06/utilizing-canva-to-work-smarter-not-harder/ ● Concept Checks: Short, visually-driven quizzes or polls (using Canva's Polls & Quizzes feature) embedded in a presentation or shared as standalone graphics to gauge immediate understanding.  Polls and Quizzes in Canva ● Visual Summaries/Sketchnotes: Students create a graphic organizer, infographic, or hand-drawn (then digitized in Canva) sketchnote to summarize a reading, lecture, or concept. This helps them process information visually. ● "What I Learned" Posters/Slides: Students design a single slide or poster to highlight the most important thing they learned, along with supporting details. ● "Question of the Day" / "Would You Rather" Graphics: Use Canva to create engaging prompts that spark discussion or poll student preferences related to the lesson.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peer Feedback Forms: Design a structured feedback form or rubric that students can use to review each other's work within Canva, fostering collaboration and critical thinking. • Think-Pair-Share Visuals: Create prompts or scenarios that students discuss in pairs and then share with the class, often facilitated by a visually appealing slide. 📺 Think Pair Share • Bell Ringers/Warm-Ups: Visually appealing prompts to start a lesson, perhaps asking students to predict, connect, or recall information.
3	<p>Summative assessments evaluate student learning at the end of an instructional unit or course by comparing it against a standard or benchmark. Canva allows for more creative and authentic demonstrations of learning. Create a summative assessment from the list below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infographics: Students create detailed infographics to present research findings, explain complex processes, summarize historical events, or illustrate scientific data. • Digital Posters/Campaigns: For advocacy, historical events, scientific discoveries, or literary analysis, students design impactful posters, flyers, or a series of social media graphics (as a mini-campaign). • Presentations/Slideshows: Students can create dynamic and visually appealing presentations (e.g., TED Talk style) to showcase their understanding of a topic, present research, or tell a story. https://digitallearning.cahs.wvu.edu/updates/2024/11/21/from-boring-to-brilliant-how-canva-can-transform-your-presentations • E-Portfolios/Digital Portfolios: Students compile a collection of their work (documents, images, videos, other Canva creations) into a visually cohesive digital portfolio to demonstrate their learning journey and mastery. • Visual Timelines/Flowcharts: Detailed timelines of historical periods, literary plots, scientific processes, or project plans. 📺 How to Create a Timeline on Canva

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concept Maps/Mind Maps: Comprehensive visual representations of interconnected ideas, theories, or systems, demonstrating deep understanding of relationships. • Digital Storyboards/Comic Strips: Students visually narrate a story, illustrate a process, or explain a sequence of events. • Mock Magazine Covers/Newspaper Front Pages: Students create a mock publication cover related to a unit of study, demonstrating understanding of key events, figures, or themes. • Product/Service Advertisements: For business, economics, or even character analysis (e.g., advertising a character's "qualities"), students design advertisements. • Interactive Quizzes/Games: Using Canva's Polls & Quizzes, teachers can create more engaging "tests" or review games that go beyond standard multiple-choice formats. ▶ Polls and Quizzes in Canva • Data Visualizations/Reports (with Canva Sheets): Students can analyze data (e.g., from a science experiment, social studies survey) using Canva Sheets and then create compelling charts and graphs within a report. ▶ Canva Create 2025: Introducing Canva Sheets & Magic ... ▶ Canva Create 2025: Meet Magic Charts • "How-To" Guides/Instruction Manuals: Students explain a complex procedure or concept in a step-by-step visual guide. • Biographies/Character Studies: Students create "about me" pages or social media profiles for historical figures, literary characters, or scientists, incorporating biographical details and key contributions.
4	<p>Canva's collaborative features allow students to collaborate on projects, fostering teamwork and shared learning. Create a collaborative assessment from the list below:</p> <p>▶ Creating Your Most Collaborative Classroom Yet</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Group Infographics/Posters/Presentations: Teams of students can collaborate on a single design, dividing tasks and combining their knowledge.

	<p>2. Shared Brainstorming Boards: Using Canva's Whiteboard feature, students can collaboratively brainstorm ideas, organize thoughts, or create a group concept map.</p> <p>▶ Create class brainstorms with Canva Whiteboards Canv...</p> <p>3. Peer Review Sessions: Students can share their Canva designs with peers for feedback, annotating directly on the design or providing comments.</p> <p>▶ How to share and collaborate on designs in Canva (8/10)</p>
5	<p>Canva can be used to facilitate student reflection on their own learning and progress.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning Journals/Reflections: Students can design visually appealing journal entries or reflection templates where they document their learning, challenges, and insights. • "My Learning Journey" Visuals: A visual representation of a student's growth throughout a unit or course, highlighting milestones and key takeaways.
6	<p>Canva Code allows users to embed interactive elements, widgets, and dynamic content by writing or pasting simple code (like HTML, CSS, and JavaScript snippets, or embeds from other platforms). This moves assessments beyond static visuals into more engaging experiences.</p> <p>Interactive Quizzes & Self-Checks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How: Instead of just static questions, use Canva Code to embed more complex quiz structures from platforms like Typeform, Google Forms, or even custom JavaScript quiz widgets. This allows for varied question types (drag-and-drop, matching), immediate feedback, and score tracking. • Assessment Focus: Deeper understanding through immediate, personalized feedback; assessment of application and problem-solving skills; data collection for teacher insights. <p>Data Visualization & Exploration:</p>

- How: Embed interactive charts and graphs from tools like Flourish, Datawrapper, or even simple JavaScript charting libraries. Students could present a research project and allow viewers to hover over data points for more information or filter datasets.
- Assessment Focus: Ability to analyze and present complex data; critical thinking about data representation; demonstration of technical skills in data interaction.

Simulations & Scenarios:

- How: Create mini-simulations for science experiments, economic models, or historical decision-making. For example, a simple JavaScript game or a tool that lets users adjust variables to see immediate outcomes.
- Assessment Focus: Application of theoretical knowledge to practical scenarios; understanding of cause-and-effect relationships; problem-solving in a dynamic environment.

"Choose Your Own Adventure" Narratives:

- How: For literature, history, or even ethics classes, embed simple interactive branching narratives where clicking a choice leads to a different slide or reveals a different outcome. This could be done with basic HTML/JavaScript.
- Assessment Focus: Comprehension of plot, character development, or historical causality; understanding of decision-making processes; creative storytelling.

Interactive Tutorials & Guides:

- How: For "how-to" guides or step-by-step instructions, use Canva Code to embed dynamic elements like collapsible sections, tabs, or even small interactive demonstrations of a process.
- Assessment Focus: Clarity and precision in instructions; understanding of processes; ability to create effective learning resources.

Embedded Media & External Content:

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How: While Canva already allows embedding YouTube, Canva Code can open doors for more specific or interactive media. Think of embedding a specific segment of a video with annotations, a 3D model viewer (if supported by a simple embed code), or even a live social media feed for a "current events" assessment.• Assessment Focus: Research skills, integration of multimedia; critical evaluation of external resources. |
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Collaborative Whiteboards/Brainstorms:

- How: If you have access to embed code for more advanced collaborative whiteboarding tools or shared code editors, you could integrate them for real-time group problem-solving.
- Assessment Focus: Teamwork, real-time collaboration, shared problem-solving.

Personalized Learning Paths:

- How: Design assessment flows where a student's answer to an embedded quiz question (via Canva Code) determines which subsequent content or questions they see, creating a personalized review or assessment path.
- Assessment Focus: Adaptive learning, diagnostic assessment, self-paced review.