

Constructive alignment

Curriculum/Programme design

What is it?

- Constructive = students construct meaning through relevant activities
- Alignment = setting up a learning environment that supports the use of appropriate learning activities to meet intended outcomes.

Why is it important?

- Can serve as a roadmap for the educator
- Highlights the level of understanding we expect our students to achieve.
- Ensures that we are assessing what we expected the students to learn.

What does it look like?

Outcome	Learning activities	Assessment
Discuss the concept of constructive alignment within an existing curriculum.	1. Lecture on constructive alignment. 2. Group discussion on current context and curriculum design. 3. Individual reflection on where alignment is lacking and why a change is needed.	Written report on: 1. Current context 2. Current alignment 3. Recommendations for improvement of constructive alignment. 4. Recommendations for resources required to achieve constructive alignment.

Additional concepts

- Outcomes: (course level)
 - Skills, knowledge and abilities that students will have gained from taking your course. They should be clearly stated expectations of performance.
- Activities:
 - Planned opportunities for students to interact with content and their environment to facilitate learning of a specific topic or concept.

