





Reasonable Adjustments and the Design of Alternative Assessments

Dr Denise Lee



Introduction

- Curriculum Enhancement Project 2021
- Assessment and Feedback Policy 2023-24 (updated)
- Development of the Assessment & Feedback Guidance
- Why is it important?
- Assessment Methods
- What does an Inclusive Assessment Look Like?
- Further Information/Support



Curriculum Enhancement Project 2021

Designing Assessment for Neurodiverse Students in Civil Engineering and the Built Environment

- 44% of neurodiverse students had not disclosed their condition to the University.
- 56% said that they did not receive support from the university with their condition. Of those who did, they defined support as extra time in exams, note taker and scribe.
- 50% found Closed Book Exams the most challenging assessment method.



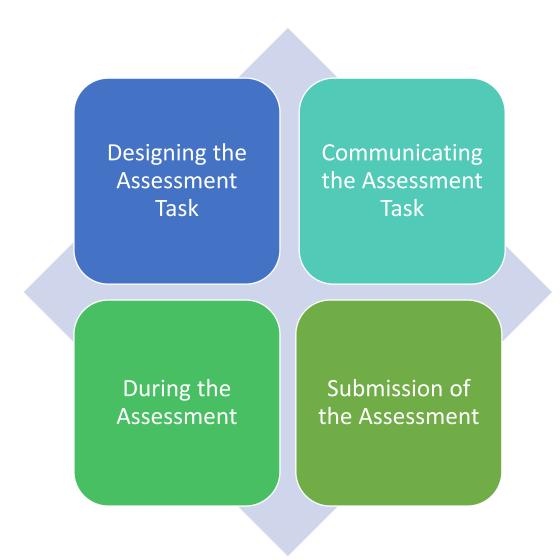
Assessment and Feedback Policy

Principles of Assessment and Feedback

The Assessment and Feedback Policy works the following core principles:

- Equitability: LJMU assessment and feedback should provide all students with a fair and equitable opportunity to meet assessment criteria.
- **Transparency:** All LJMU assessments should be written and communicated in such a way to be transparent to all students to help them understand what is required, how they will be assessed and provided with feedback.
- Anticipatory: Assignments should be accessible in the sense of enabling all students, irrespective of physical disability/learning differences, to meet assessment criteria. Students must be supported in their understanding, development and submission of assessment items.
- Flexibility: Alternative assessment provides a framework to meet the diverse needs of our students.
- Accountability: All assessment design, feedback and marking must conform to LJMU curriculum standards and procedures as defined in the Academic Framework Regulations.
- Collaborative: Where possible, students should be enabled and encouraged to contributed to assessment design, the development of marking criteria or <u>choice of feedback methods</u>.

Development of the Guidance



Inclusive Assessment



Designing the Assessment Task

- Programme level design
- Learning Outcomes
- Provide options for flexible assessment formats
- Develop your understanding
- Student voice



Communicating the Assessment Task

- Prepare students for assessment
- Language
- Inclusive question design
- Make the guidance inclusive
- Provide formative submission opportunities
- Provide guidance on the structure
- Provide clear instructions and guidelines
- Technology



During the Assessment

- Offer early communication and consultation
- Assessment chunking
- Self-review
- Waypoint to support services
- Using the criteria



Submission of the Assessment

- Deadlines
- Flexibility
- CME and evaluation processes
- Allow for additional time or extensions
- Awareness raising



Why is it important?

- Equitable and fair evaluation of individuals from different backgrounds.
- Creation of inclusive and culturally responsive assessments that accommodate various learning styles and perspectives.
- Ensuring a more accurate reflection of individuals' knowledge and abilities.
- Encourages participation and engagement of diverse learners.
- Duty under the Equality Act 2010 to make reasonable adjustments - If we make our teaching and learning inclusive the number of individual reasonable adjustments will reduce

Assessment Method Challenges

Examinations

- Neurodiverse students
- Anxiety

Coursework / Essay / Report

- Language
- Structure

Presentation

- Anxiety
- Bristol University



What does an Inclusive Assessment Look Like?

Examination

- Alternative as coursework
- Limited Open Book
- Pre-seen Questions

Coursework / Essay / Report

- Broken down into sections
- Organising of information
- Assessment chunking
- Providing structure/template

Presentation

- Podcast
- Video recording



Further Information/Support

<u>LJMU Assessment Policy -</u>
https://policies_ljmu_ac_uk/UserHome/Policies/PolicyDisplay_aspx
?&id=480&l=1

Inclusive assessments | Liverpool John Moores University (Ijmujacjuk)

https://sally-brown_net/

https://phil-race_co_uk/



