

Constructing Quality Multiple Choice Evaluation Instruments



Wednesday, November 14, 2018

12:00 – 12:50 p.m.

Hickory Room, Student Center

Presenter: Jim Robinson

With the increased usage of learning management systems (LMS) in the curriculum the number of evaluations students take online has increased. Multiple choice questions may be a particularly attractive type to use due to the auto grading feature that saves time for the instructor.

At this session we will look at what the research indicates regarding the factors that contribute to good design for multiple choice tests. How can one construct an instrument that is a better indicator of actual learning rather than questions that lead to the elimination of options followed by an educated guess? We will discuss the optimal number of distractors, the goal in providing the instrument (e.g. low stakes mastery or high stakes evaluation), and how questions can be phrased. We will also look at capabilities of the LMS in allowing one to include such things as graphics, tables, or imagery as part of the test question. Finally we will look at the ramification of LMS settings available through the options and restrictions settings.

Light Refreshments will be served.

This session is sponsored by the Teaching & Learning Center.