

# Continuous Assessment

.....



## WHY

COVID-19 necessitates remote online learning until the pandemic has been averted. This has implications for teaching, learning and assessment.

## WHAT

Continuous assessment (CA) refers to the use of several assessments during the module period, instead of the conventional single final exam in the last weeks of the semester

## HOW

While remote online learning continues, you will be assessed continuously.

## WHERE

eFundi will serve as the primary platform for the online facilitation of your learning, completing tests and uploading test assignments.



## CALCULATION OF MODULE MARKS

### Pre-COVID-19

Module marks were calculated based on the sum of a participation mark (consisting of formal and informal formative assessment), and a summative assessment mark, in other words, a combination of formative and summative assessment was used.

### Continuous Assessment

In continuous assessment the principles of a participation mark and examination mark is not used. With CA the compilation of the module mark represents the allocation of various weightings to several assessments during the module bringing the total to 100%. All assessments, which include the assessment that replace the examination paper, adds to the continuous assessment. A weighting is determined for each assignment / assessment which will determine the module mark.



## Understand Assessment

Assessment plays an important role in student motivation and engagement.

Assessment refers to a student's achievement against outcomes by a process of gathering information to understand what students know, and can do with their knowledge as a result of their educational experiences i.e. exercises and, group work assignments.

Formative assessment determines progress during a unit or lesson. Summative assessment judges a student's the level of achievement i.e. tests and exams.

# EXPECT

As always, assessments at the NWU will remain fair, valid, rigorous, efficient, and an integral part of learning.



## 1 eFundi Tests & Quizzes

With the eFundi Tests and Quizzes tool you can expect to answer various types of questions online, such as short written answers, true/false, multiple choice, short answer, matching, essay questions and more.

## 2 Lecturer's choice

Lecturers may choose to add a time limit or randomly select questions from a pool so that each student gets a slightly different set of questions, allow multiple submissions and provide feedback on individual questions.

## 3 Calculations

When it comes to calculations, students may be expected to take photos of written calculations that must then be submitted as attachments via the eFundi Assignment tool.

## 4 Assignments

Lecturers may also expect students to submit essays, reports, reflections, or projects via the eFundi assignment tool. Should students be expected to complete portfolios, with a collection of submissions of various types as evidence for assessment, these may also be submitted via the eFundi dropbox or the Student pages where students create an online page with ordered links to digital material such as documents, videos and audio files.

## 5 Case studies

Case studies may be completed via guided discussions on eFundi forums, or also uploaded via the eFundi discussion tool.

## 5 Multimedia

CA may also include self-assessment quizzes with feedback, minute papers to indicate threshold concepts, mind-maps to demonstrate understanding, summaries of class discussions, keeping a reflective journal, video presentations, peer assessments with feedback according to a rubric or short audio/video response to assignments and tests.



### YOU ARE NOT ALONE

- Contact your lecturer
- Make use of the eFundi and the CTL Remote Learning Support pages for students
- Contact an academic adviser, SI leader, academic peer mentor or tutor

### FOCUS ON THE POSITIVES

- CA allows you to reflect and monitor your learning continuously. Remember that the ability to judge the quality of your own work is a required competence in your chosen future profession
- CA reduces exam anxiety
- CA facilitates self-directedness
- CA promotes critical thinking as you are able to judge your own performances
- CA gives you time to build a deeper understanding over time, and not just cram for the exam.

### TOP TIPS

- **Follow** your lecturer's instructions on assignments and due dates as posted on the eFundi Assignment tool.
- **Take note** of your lecturer's feedback regarding tests, assignment etc. and follow-up where necessary.
- **Plan** and manage your time effectively.
- **Achievement** of the learning outcomes for a module, is judged by various pieces of evidence that you will submit during the course of the semester. You may be given 6 opportunities to hand in pieces of learning evidence, although only the best 4 will count towards your module mark. This way unforeseen circumstances such as connectivity or power outages are taken into account.

