

Criterion-referenced assessment

Open Forum

October 2007

Education
Department
2007

Intended outcomes of this session

- Identify and share colleagues' practices since the implementation of criterion-referenced assessment (CRA)
- Explore issues and concerns in relation to the implementation of CRA



*Not to prescribe or tell
But to discuss and share*

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Background

- Senate approved, with effect from 2005/06
 - to adopt a criterion-referenced approach to assessment (CRA)
 - to remove the 'guideline distribution' for grading students' overall performance in a subject

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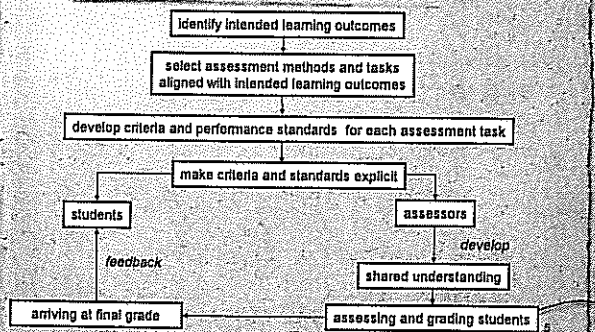
What is criterion-referenced assessment?

- Assessing students according to
 - achievement of intended learning outcomes
 - absolute performance level
 - pre-determined criteria and standards

- NOT to compare with other students' performance
- NO LONGER graded on the normal distribution curve
- NO pre-determined/guideline on grading distribution

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Steps involved in setting up and implementing CRA



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Discussion 1

What are your current practices and concerns with respect to:

- 1) setting assessment items that match intended learning outcomes?
- 2) developing clear criteria and standards for each assessment task?
- 3) making assessment criteria and standard explicit to assessors and students?
- 4) ensuring consistency in marking and grading?
- 5) benchmarking against other standards (e.g. accreditation bodies)?

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Summary of current practices and concerns

- *setting assessment items that match intended learning outcomes*

Current practices	Concerns

Summary of current practices and concerns

- *developing clear criteria and standards for each assessment task?*

Current practices	Concerns

Summary of current practices and concerns

- *making assessment criteria and standard explicit to assessors and students*

Current practices	Concerns

Summary of current practices and concerns

- *ensuring consistency in marking and grading*

Current practices	Concerns

Summary of current practices and concerns

- *benchmarking against other standards (e.g. accreditation bodies)*

Current practices	Concerns

Discussion 2

What support do you need from PolyU to help you to address the concerns as identified in Discussion 1?

Summary of support required

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