Books on Assessment and Evaluation

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Walvoord, B. E. (2004). *Assessment clear and simple: A practical guide for institutions, departments, and general education*. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass.

This book comes at assessment from a higher education and accreditation perspective. The chapters are organized around an introduction to assessment for everyone, and then chapters for institutional planners, departments, and for general education. The first chapter contains three steps of assessment, and addresses concerns about assessment. The authors suggest that there are two types of assessment: direct and indirect. Direct measures are for student work, and indirect measures are opinion surveys, tracking graduates, etc. The subsequent chapters list clear and simple the ways to go about assessment at an institution, department, and general education level. A good half of the book has appendices full of rubrics for student classroom work, guidelines for program reviews, questions for evaluating teaching, and tables connecting measures with learning goals.

Janesick, V. J. (2006). *Authentic assessment*. New York, NY: Peter Lang Publishing.

While this book title sounds like it would be about how to do authentic assessment, it is really a complaint against high stakes testing, offering authentic assessment as an alternative. Authentic assessment is based in the principles of John Dewey and Howard Gardner, as well as others. Ethical and instructional problems with high states testing are delineated throughout the book.

McNeil, K. A., Newman, I., & Steinhauser, J. (2005). *How to be involved in program evaluation: What every administrator needs to know*. Lanham, MD: ScarecrowEducation.

The authors explain a five step general evaluation model: needs assessment, baseline data, procedures to achieve objectives, program implementation, and post assessment. A unique contribution of this book is the comparison of the program director's views and the evaluator's views. This is very helpful if you are the program director and doing your own evaluation. It helps you think through the process and perspectives.