

A Radical Departure from Conventional Assessment Practices: Utilising Adaptive Comparative Judgements Methods



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This seminar will explore the use of an assessment method which employs a principle known as Adaptive Comparative Judgements (ACJ). The method builds on the notions that we, as people, are often better at making judgements that are comparative in nature, i.e. paired judgements, rather than absolute ones. In using the ACJ process, rather than examiners scoring pieces of students' work in isolation against a marking scheme, the examiners 'compare' two pieces of work side-by-side and choose the one that is better at meeting the assessment criteria. Examiners work in teams, either simultaneously, or asynchronously, making comparative assessment judgements for pairs of items from the same group of submissions. They continue until a secure ranked scale emerges upon which grade boundaries can be applied.

These comparative judgements work particularly well for open-ended student work such as portfolios, video extracts and rich media artefacts. The reliability of the assessment process has been shown to be particularly high, often around 0.95. Since multiple examiners evaluate each assessment item, the method can provide feedback on inter-examiner reliability and identify problematic submissions.

When: Tuesday 7 June 2016, 7:00 - 8:30pm

Where: ACER Adelaide Office
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