How we Assess Learning

0:05 So when I was going to traditional schools, through high school and college, I would always study really, really hard for a test. And I’d ace the test and immediately forget everything I had just studied. An assessment is really great in that its not just filling in bubbles on a multiple choice test, you actually complete something real. *(Jennifer Baker – Alumni)* *Actual Capella learner who agreed to appear in promotional materials for Capella.*

0:26 Let’s say you’re taking an accounting course...you could be doing some kind of a financial analysis. The nice thing about that is that you would be able to take that then and you could demonstrate to a potential employer or current employer or anybody else that you actually know how to do this and it’s not just a random exercise. *(Cheryl Bann – Faculty)*

0:44 And that’s the stark difference. We’re not looking at how well you memorize facts from a textbook chapters one through fifteen. We’re looking at how you apply possibly some of the main components of those chapters and apply it to something that’s happening today currently. *(Charlyn Hilliman – Faculty Chair)*

1:03 With any assessment in our courses, we have a scoring guide. And it’s a rubric that defines the degree to which a learner has demonstrated mastery on that assessment. It could be from non-performance through distinguished. *(Laura Sankovich – Faculty)*

1:17 And so with this partnership between the learners and the faculty members, we get learners from entering the door maybe at a basic level and being able to exit as a distinguished learner. *(Charlyn Hilliman – Faculty Chair)*