Assessment Tools

Below are links to assessment tools and techniques along with specific geoscience examples and resources.

- **Concept Maps** - A diagramming technique for assessing how well students see the "big picture".
- **ConcepTests** - Conceptual multiple-choice questions that are useful in large classes.
- **Knowledge Survey** - Students answer whether they could answer a survey of course content questions.
- **Exams** - Find tips on how to make exams better assessment instruments.
- **Oral Presentations** - Tips for evaluating student presentations.
- **Poster Presentations** - Tips for evaluating poster presentations.
- **Peer Review** - Having students assess themselves and each other.
- **Portfolios** - A collection of evidence to demonstrate mastery of a given set of concepts.
- **Rubrics** - A set of evaluation criteria based on learning goals and student performance.
- **Written Reports** - Tips for assessing written reports.
- **Other Assessment Types** Includes concept sketches, case studies, seminar-style courses, mathematical thinking and performance assessments.
Topics Of Particular Interest

- **Large Class Assessment** Learn more about assessment strategies that are particularly useful for large classes and see examples of how techniques were employed in geoscience classes.
- **Using Technology** Learn more about how technology can improve classroom assessment and see how techniques were employed in geoscience classes.

Don’t Know Which Tool to Use? Look Through our Introductory Resources

- **Primer on Assessment in the Geosciences** is an in depth introduction to assessment created for faculty teaching introductory courses.
- **DLESE Evaluation Toolkit** (more info) aims to help geoscience educators and project evaluators find good resources, get feedback and help with geoscience education evaluation, and share results with one another.
- **Evaluation Cookbook** (more info) is a basic guide to evaluation methods for lecturers in a cookbook format.
- **OERL: Online Evaluation Resource Library** website designed for professionals working on project evaluations.
- The **Center for Technology in Learning** at SRI International has conducted a number of projects creating assessment designs and examples for middle and high school students that are relevant to the geosciences, including:

Browse our collection of **Assessment Resources**.
Search the collection by topic and type of resource.