

ASSESSMENT TERMINOLOGY AND DEFINITIONS

Some Assessment Definitions

EVALUATION	Obtaining relevant and accurate information on which to base decisions and make judgements. Often applied to courses and programmes.
ASSESSMENT	Estimation of an individual's degree of ability. Often used as a synonym for evaluation.
RELIABILITY	Measuring consistently whatever you are measuring.
VALIDITY	Measuring what you suppose and what you believe you are measuring.
NORM REFERENCING	Meaning is given to measurement by comparing scores to a reference group. It gives scores relative meaning. Compares students.
CRITERION REFERENCING	The focus of measurement is an achievement or non-achievement of certain competencies (skills) and emphasis is not usually on excellence in

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an area.