

Backward Design Worksheet

Using Backward Design to Teach the 10 Essential Skills

Stage 1: Identify Desired Results

1. Which essential skill(s) will you focus on? (Select one or two):

- ☐ Communicate effectively.
- ☐ Think critically to solve problems and create new ideas and solutions.
- ☐ Apply quantitative reasoning skills to analyze and solve numerical problems.
- ☐ Interact effectively with others.
- ☐ Adapt to changing circumstances while leading and supporting others.
- ☐ Perform professionally.
- ☐ Engage in civic life to improve society.
- ☐ Collaborate and work in teams.
- ☐ Apply academic knowledge, skills and abilities.
- ☐ Use information for decision making.

2. Why is this essential skill important in your discipline or course?

Write a brief rationale below:

3. What should students know, understand, and be able to do related to this essential skill?

Use action verbs where possible (See Revised Bloom's Taxonomy):

Stage 2: Determine Acceptable Evidence

4. How will students demonstrate this essential skill?

Describe or name an assignment or assessment where this essential skill will be evident:

5. What criteria or rubric elements will show the essential skill is present and developed?

Write 2-3 key indicators of success:

- _____
- _____
- _____

Stage 3: Plan Learning Experiences

6. What learning experiences will help students build this essential skill?

List 1-2 in-class or homework activities (e.g., discussion, peer review, simulation):

- _____
- _____

7. How will you make the purpose, task, and criteria transparent (drawing from the TILT approach) to students?

Consider how you'll explain the why, what, and how clearly:

Next Steps

What is one small change you can implement this semester to better align your course with essential skill learning?