

## Instructors analyze case studies of well-aligned vs. misaligned assignments

### Case Study 1: History Class Misalignment

- **Scenario:** A high school history teacher sets the objective for students to understand the causes of World War II. However, the teacher uses only lectures and textbook readings and assesses students through multiple-choice tests that focus mainly on dates and key figures.
- **Aspect to Analyze:** Assess the alignment between the learning objective (understanding causes) and the teaching methods and assessments used (focus on rote memorization).

### Case Study 2: Mathematics Class Alignment

- **Scenario:** A college-level mathematics professor aims to enhance students' problem-solving skills in calculus. The objectives clearly state that students should be able to apply calculus techniques to solve real-world problems. The professor uses a mix of lectures, problem-solving sessions, and group projects where students apply calculus concepts to scenarios like engineering and physics. Assessments include project-based evaluations and practical exams.
- **Aspect to Analyze:** Evaluate how the teaching methods and assessments align with the learning objective of applying calculus in practical contexts.

### Case Study 3: Science Class Misalignment

- **Scenario:** The objective for a middle school science class is for students to understand the scientific method. The teacher primarily uses videos and demonstrations to explain concepts but assesses students with essays and short-answer questions about scientific terminology.
- **Aspect to Analyze:** Discuss the misalignment between the teaching methods (videos and demonstrations) and the assessments (essays on terminology), considering the objective of understanding the scientific method.

### Case Study 4: English Literature Class Alignment

- **Scenario:** An English teacher wants her students to critically analyze literary themes. The objectives are clearly articulated, focusing on critical analysis skills. The teacher uses a variety of teaching methods, including guided readings, group discussions, and individual presentations where students must argue their interpretations of themes. Assessments are designed around essays and class discussions where students demonstrate their analytical skills.
- **Aspect to Analyze:** Assess how well the teaching methods and assessments are aligned with the objective of critically analyzing literary themes.