

# BACKWARD DESIGN MODEL

"Teaching for Understanding"

1

**Determine  
Learning Goals &  
Objectives**

**To Establish**

- What learners should know & be able to do by the end of the course
- Transfer of knowledge to other challenges

And To:

- Distinguish "Need to Know" from "Nice to Know"
- Clarify for students the purpose of the course content

2

**Plan  
Assessments**

**That Are**

- Ongoing
- High & low stakes
- Aligned with learning goals/objectives
- Of varying types

Such as:

- Problem or case analyses
- Major and minor course projects
- Synthesizing information through reflections/discussions
- Quizzes & tests

3

**Plan Learning  
Activities**

**That**

- Are minds-on & hands-on
- Encourage exploration
- Align with learning goals/objectives

And:

- Use text book as reference, not syllabus