

A Competency-based Distance University

## Large-Scale E-portfolio Testing Program Design and Management


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## Western Governors University


- Founded by Western Governors Assoc.
- Online
- Accredited by NWCCU, DETC, NCATE
- Full-time working adults
- Competency and Assessment Based



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## Teachers College Sequence


- Lower Division Domains
- Foundations of Teaching
- Effective Teaching Practices
- Demonstration Teaching (The Portfolio fits here.)



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## The Teacher Work Sample E-portfolio


- Based on the Renaissance Partnership Teacher Work Sample (TWS) portfolio
- Modified the rubrics to reduce inference and to facilitate more efficient and reliable scoring and measurement
- Split the large-scale project into 8 “performance tasks” to fit 12-week student teaching schedule



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## Statistical Characteristics of the Program


- Approximately 500 students in each 6-month cohort
- 200+ part-time MS and PhD evaluators
- Currently grading 35,000 submissions per month
- Guaranteed 3–day turnaround on all grading and associated feedback



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## Program Design and Development Challenges (Prerequisites)

1. Conceptualize the full range of competence.
2. Build detailed and concrete domain definitions.
3. Select and specify suitable assessment tools.



## Program Design and Development Challenges (Design Decisions)

1. Use mastery scoring to verify competence & analytic/diagnostic rubrics to enhance learning.
2. Support satisfactory academic progress requirements and the learning process.
3. Provide meaningful prescriptive remediation feedback.



## Operational and Ongoing Management Challenges

1. Differentiate the faculty role to serve students.
2. Increase capacity.
3. Improve the technology that drives delivery, scoring, and reporting.
4. Additional challenges.



## To Summarize...

**What makes it possible to administer a program with 35,000 submissions per month?**

1. Operational Design
2. Support for Students
3. Grading Support



## Questions or Comments?

- An article on this topic is available upon request.
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