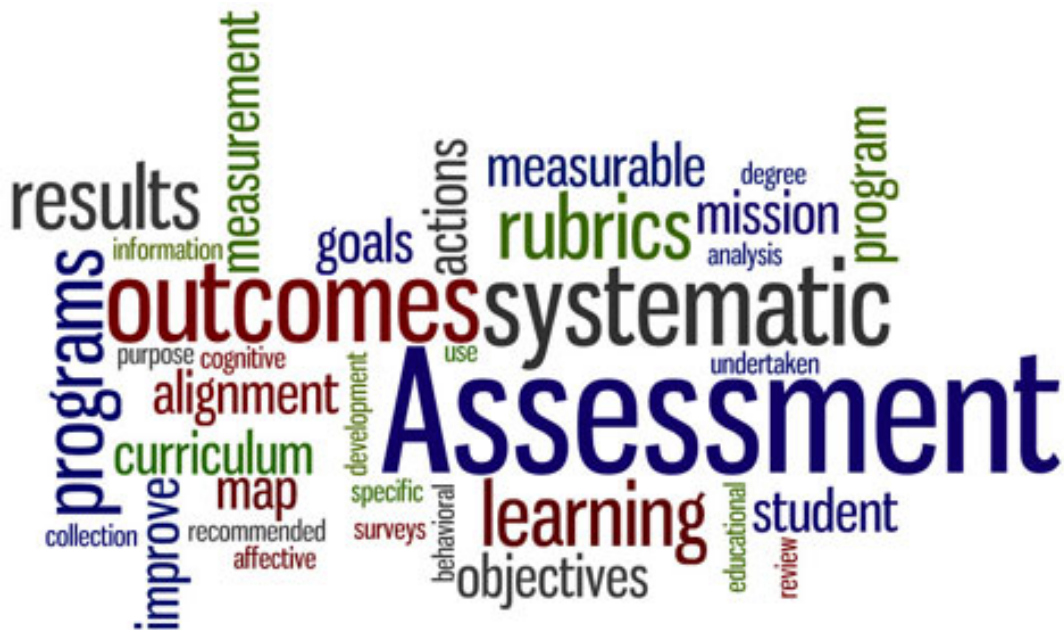


Department of Languages & Cultures  
2018 Research Seminar Series

A Talk by Professor Anthony Harland  
Head of Department for the Higher Education Development Centre.

**The Assessment Arms Race and its Fallout:  
The Case for Slow Scholarship**



What is the impact of assessment on university teaching and learning in circumstances where all student work is graded? I examine a case from Otago in which such conditions contributed to the proliferation of assessment tasks that resulted in a grading arms race between academics and between subjects. The research found that spaces for achieving certain educational objectives, such as fostering self-motivated learners, were marginalized. Both students and lecturers were unsatisfied with this situation but neither group could envisage change. I propose *slow scholarship* should be considered to stop further escalation and reverse the arms race. An example will be given of a curriculum based on 'learning through research' that radically alters students educational experience and how they are assessed.

May 29, 2018 Tuesday 2:00pm A3N7 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Arts Bldg.