

Backward Design

Education

Start from the outcome, then the assessment, then the lessons.

Wiggins and McTighe, in three stages. The order is the whole point.

1

Identify desired results

What should pupils know and be able to do at the end? Be specific.

2

Decide the evidence

What performance would show it? Write the assessment now, not later.

3

Plan the learning

Only now choose activities, texts and sequence.

4

Check alignment

Every activity should serve stage one. Cut what does not.

5

Name what it prevents

Activity-led planning and coverage-led planning both hide the goal.

The discipline is writing the assessment before the lessons. Doing it in the usual order quietly changes the goal to fit the activity.