

2021 CALL FOR PROPOSALS

SHEILD association, ACCES by SHEILD, and the conference committee are pleased to announce that the

2021 Alternative Assessment for Better Learning **FREE International conference** will take place on **October 16, 2021**.

The conference will make use of a hybrid model. You can choose to attend or present online, via **Zoom, or face-to-face, at Radisson Hotel**.

The conference will take place from **8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Beirut local time**.

The registration fee for the conference this year will be waived for both presenters and attendees! However, we still ask that you take a moment to register.

Conference details and access passwords will only be emailed out to registered participants.

Thank you!

The shift to remote learning and the COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the need to think differently about assessment. Although this is not a new topic, the sudden shift to online education encouraged many instructors to re-evaluate their assessment practices. In this conference, we will consider the following key questions and more: Are tests and exams the best way to assess students' learning? How can we better support students through assessment?

Collectively, we have spent part of 2020 and 2021 finding innovative ways to assess remotely. We have learned a lot about assessment strategies and approaches in the last two years. Let us use this conference opportunity to learn from each other's experiences and reflect on how we can build on our learning face-to-face and blended classrooms of the future.

Are you a teacher in the classroom who has tried an alternative form of exams or other assessments and would like to share your experience and lessons learned with us?

Are you a researcher or graduate student who has findings to share about alternative ways of assessments?

We welcome both research-based (individuals engaged in conducting research on assessment) and practice-based (teachers who are looking to share practices, strategies, and examples from their teaching experiences) submissions.

An anonymized process will be used to evaluate submissions.

Each presentation will last approximately 15 minutes (10 minutes for presentation, five minutes for discussion), with similar presentations grouped by topic.

Topics can include, but are not limited to:

Learning new ways to assess

How have assessment practices changed due to the shift to online/remote teaching? What are we doing now that we didn't think of doing before? Which online assessment practices have potential to be employed in the face-to-face classroom? Has a shift occurred in how we think about assessment for learning due to the necessity to teach and assess online?

Assessment showcase

Bring an example of an assessment practice that you employ (either in-class or online) to showcase to other instructors. No research is required to have been conducted on the efficacy of your assessment, but we expect you to share your thoughts, experiences, and rationale behind the assessment.

Submission/Registration

We are using the same link for registration and proposal submission. You can indicate inside the form whether you want to attend only or if you wish to submit a proposal as well.

Please consider the following when developing your proposal:

- We welcome proposals from teachers, staff, and (undergraduate and graduate) students from Lebanon and abroad.
- Proposals are accepted in **Arabic, English, and French**
- The deadline to submit a proposal is **Monday, August 30, 2021**.
- Proposals must be between **200-300 words**.
- Proposals may be **research-based, practice-based, or both**.
- Individuals may present in **a maximum of one session**.

Important Dates

- **August 30, 2021:** Proposal submission deadline
- **September 15, 2021:** Notification of proposal acceptance/rejection
- **October 15, 2021:** Conference registration deadline
- **October 16, 2021:** Conference

EVALUATION CRITERIA

- The relevance of the proposal to the conference theme
- The clarity of the learning outcomes
- Meaningful content - the extent to which the proposal:
 - deepens understanding/awareness of issues relating to assessment
 - is situated within the relevant literature or promising practices
(only for research-based proposals)
 - is relevant to people across academic disciplines.
- Overall clarity of proposal.

Please note that those accepted to present a session in the 2021 Alternative Assessments for Better Learning conference will be invited to write an extended abstract on the information/research presented to be published in the conference proceedings.

For more information, please visit our website at
[ACCES 2021 FREE Virtual International Conference \(acceslb.org\)](https://acceslb.org)

If you have any questions, please contact Eliana Elkhoury, PhD, the conference committee chair on
eelkhoury@ucalgary.ca