



# Assessment and learning gain: are we measuring what's important to students?



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12<sup>th</sup> Annual University of Glasgow Learning & Teaching Conference | #LTConf19 | @UofGLEADS

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# What we did

## HEFCE funded project

- ‘Live brief’ assessment with L5 and L6 students to develop insight into perceptions of learning gain
- Research used observational data, post-delivery focus groups with staff and students (separately) and review of course documentation

# What we found



Students welcome authentic assessment and the range of learning opportunities these afford BUT

- **Perceived learning related almost exclusively to soft skills and 'realness' of experience**



Learning is measured via assessments aligned to the achievement of content-related learning outcomes

- **Learning outcomes almost exclusively related to content**
- **Grades achieved broadly similar to previous two years**



So what?

- **Reliance on outcomes-based assessment potentially reductive**
- **Risk that academics drawn to 'safer' less pedagogically intensive strategies achieve similar results**





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