What is Competency-Based Education?

Elements of competency-based learning experiences:

- Explicit and clearly aligned with expected competencies
- Criteria-driven, focusing on accountability in reaching benchmarks and, ultimately, competence
- Grounded in “real-life” experiences
- Focused on fostering the learners’ ability to self-assess
- Individualized, providing more opportunities for independent study

Resources:

- Details on competencies and domains: [http://www.medschool.ucsf.edu/curriculum/competencies/](http://www.medschool.ucsf.edu/curriculum/competencies/)
- Workshop: Competency-Based Education and Evaluation [http://medschool.ucsf.edu/workshops/](http://medschool.ucsf.edu/workshops/)
- Group and individual consultations by appointment.

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Assessment Strategies

Possible portfolio elements and examples:
- Higher level testing
- Open book exams
- Self-assessments
- Short essays
- Written reports
- Leadership activities
- “Guess my lab results” worksheet
- Patient education materials developed
- Recording of an explanation to a patient of a drug insert
- Written evaluation of a drug advertisement including current literature support

Assessment Tools

Learner-Centered
- MD Portfolio
- Peer Assessments
- Self-Reflection

School-Centered
- In-Class Exams
- Competency Coaches
- Objective, Structured, Clinical Exam (OSCE)
- Clinical Practice Exam (CPX)