

# Designing effective feedback processes

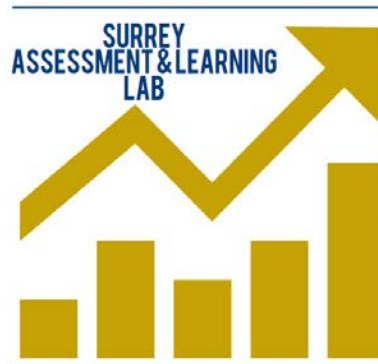
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#UQFAN: 10 February 2020





# Overview

1. From transmission to engagement
2. Example design with a large class
3. Teacher & student feedback literacy
4. Implications for research & practice

# The dominance of transmission

Effectiveness of feedback more likely to be judged on student satisfaction than student learning

Winstone & Boud (2019)



TEF submissions and L&T strategies have a dominant transmission focus

Winstone (in prep)



Educators predominantly view their responsibility to give, and the responsibility of their students to receive, comments

Winstone, Pitt, & Nash (in prep)



# Limits of 'Teacher-telling'

Students are not well-equipped to decode or act on unilateral teacher transmission of information (Sadler, 2010)



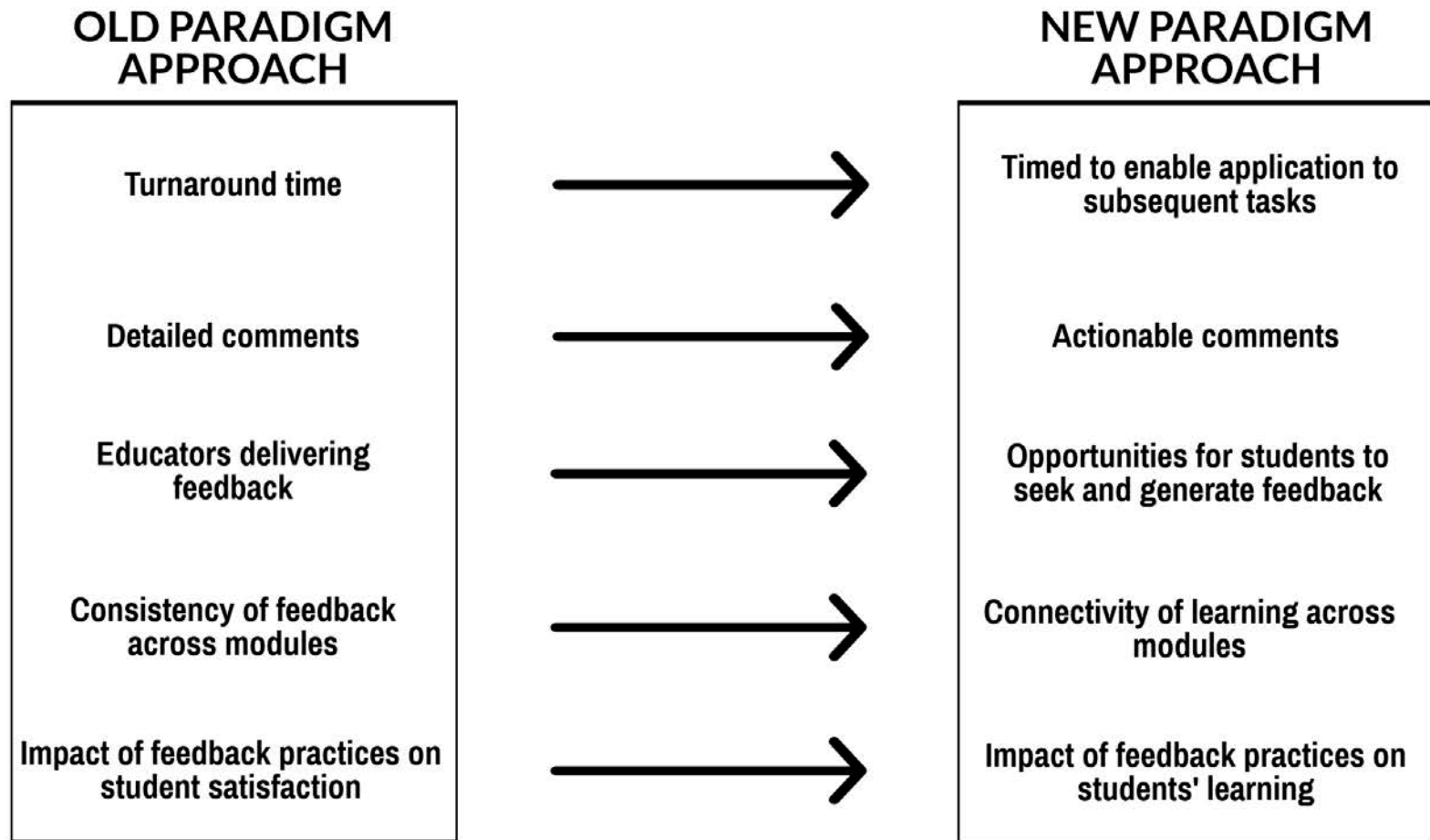


# The challenge of transmission

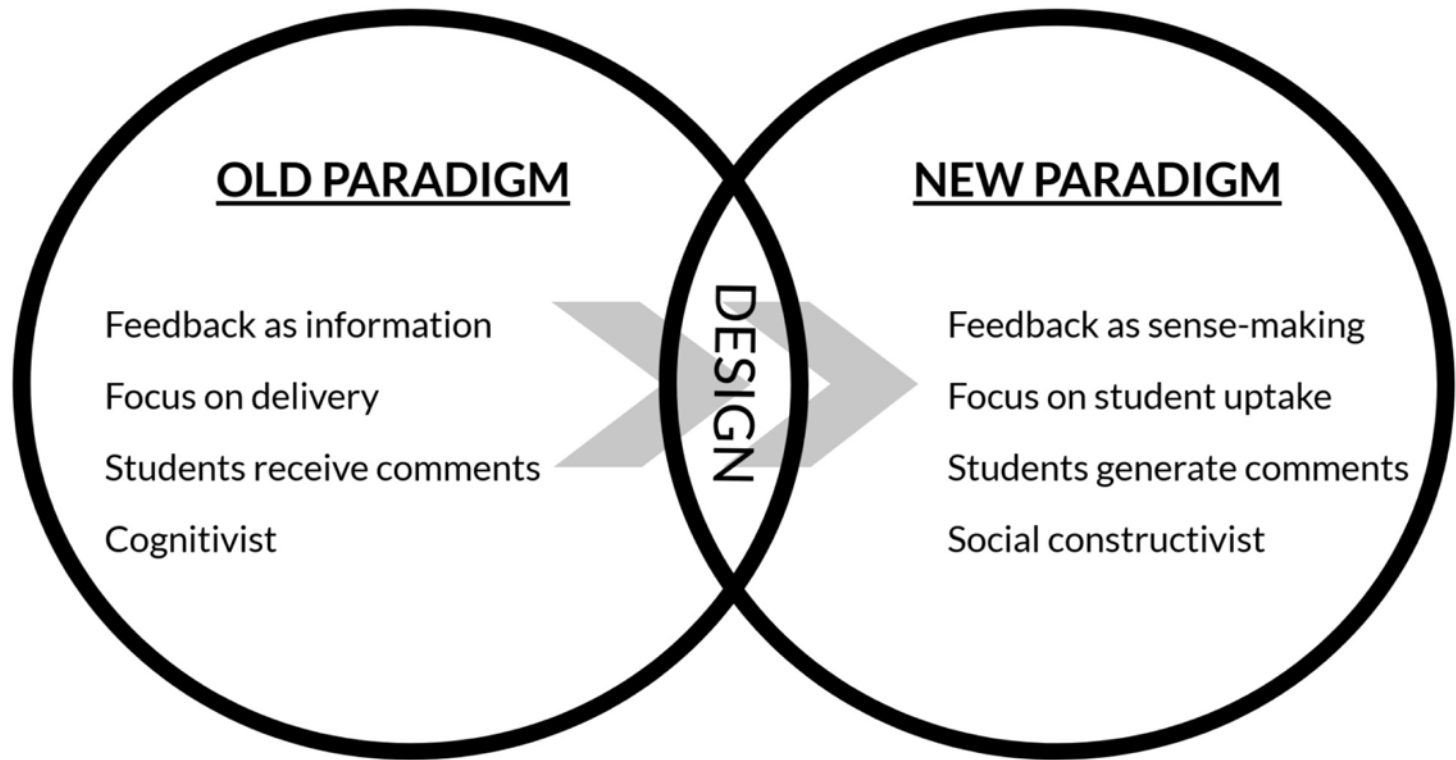


# From transmission to transformation

Winstone & Carless (2019)



# Information → action



(Winstone & Carless, 2019)



# Recipience processes

## FEEDBACK RECIPIENCE SKILLS

WINSTONE ET AL. (2017)



SELF-APPRAISAL



ASSESSMENT  
LITERACY



GOAL-SETTING &  
SELF-  
REGULATION



ENGAGEMENT &  
MOTIVATION




# Developing reciproence skills

EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY

<https://doi.org/10.1080/01443410.2019.1693510>



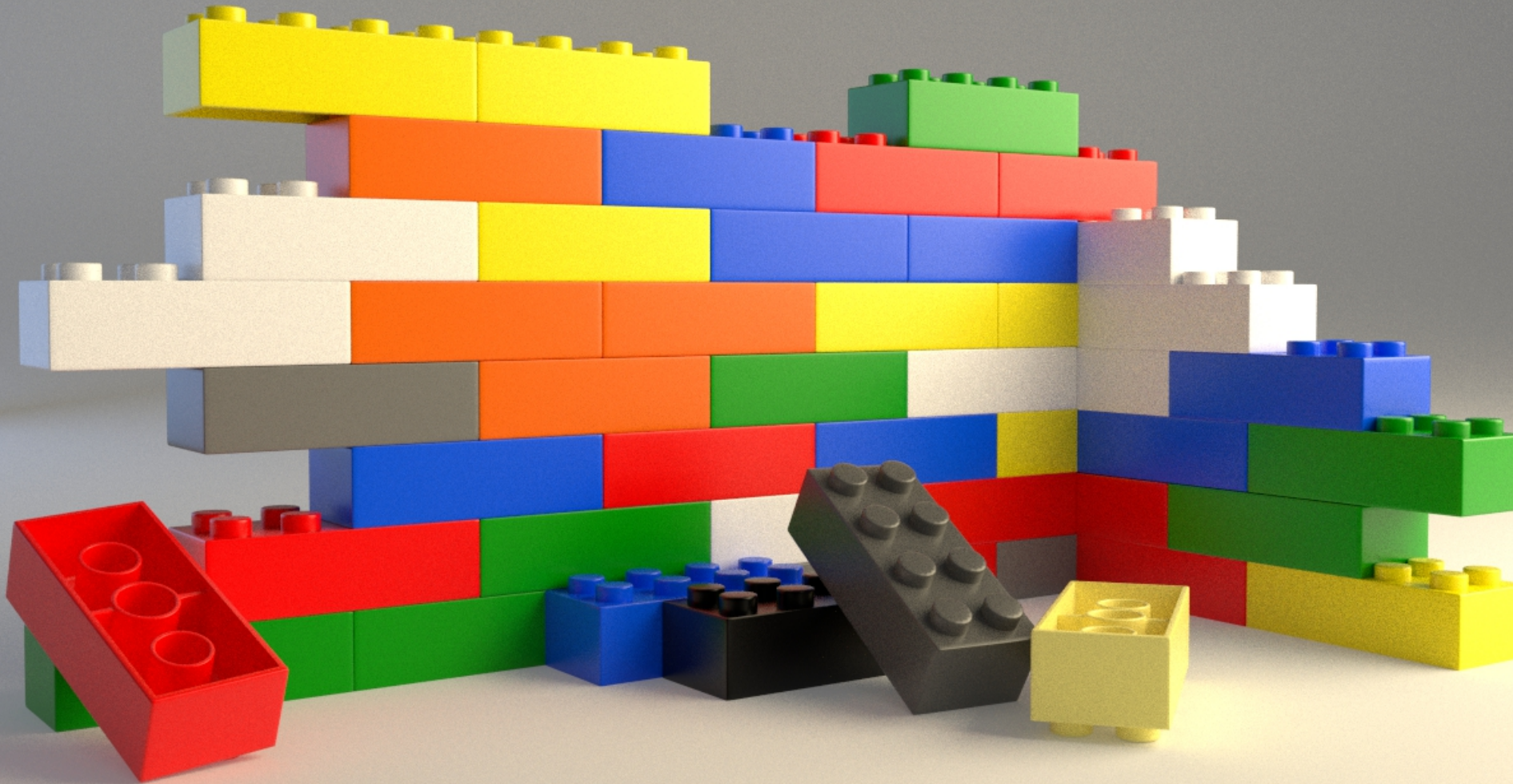
## Individual differences in self-reported use of assessment feedback: the mediating role of feedback beliefs

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*“Supporting students to feel competent in using feedback should be a key priority for interventions.”*

# Developing these skills







# Social constructivism

Action on feedback is developed through learner agency, meaning-making & co-construction

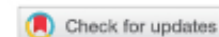


**EXAMPLE FROM CHAPTER 4**

**PSYCHOLOGY OF HEALTH BEHAVIOR –  
1500 STUDENTS**

**DEAKIN UNIVERSITY**





## Implementing summative assessment with a formative flavour: a case study in a large class

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### ABSTRACT

Teaching a large class can present real challenges in design, management and standardisation of assessment practices. One of the main dilemmas for university teachers is how to implement effective formative assessment practices with accompanying high-quality feedback consistently over time with large classroom groups. This article reports on how elements of formative practices can be implemented as part of summative assessment in very large undergraduate cohorts ( $n = 1500$  in one semester), studying in different modes (on- and off-campus), with multiple markers, and under common cost and time constraints. Design features implemented include the use of exemplars, rubrics and audio feedback. The article draws on the reflections of the leading teacher, and argues that, for summative assessment to benefit learners, it should contain formative assessment elements. The teaching practices utilised in the case study provide some means to resolve the tensions between formative assessment and summative assessment that may be more generally applicable.

### KEYWORDS

Formative assessment; summative assessment; large classes; audio feedback; exemplars

# **Assessment design**

Online quizzes 10%

Three linked journal entries 45%

Final exam 45% (applying knowledge learnt in journals)

# Aligned assessment design

3 journal entries where students produce 2 minute video & reflect on their health behavior changes (800 words)

The logo for 'Uptake' features the word 'Uptake' in a bold, sans-serif font. The 'Up' is dark purple, and the 'take' is bright yellow. A large, dark purple arrow points upwards from the top of the 'U'.

# Criteria & exemplars

Video explanation of rubric

+

Online exemplar



# **3 forms of feedback**

1. Grade aligned with rubric
2. Written explanation linked to LOs
3. 5 minute audio file (25 sessional staff)

# Audio feedback

Timely: 7 days before next entry is due

Enables rapport &  
nuance



You can talk faster than you can write



# Analysis



Task sequence enables feedback uptake



Use of audio feedback



Mainly 'Teacher-telling'

**AND SOME ALTERNATIVES ...**

# Audio peer feedback

Activating student evaluative judgment

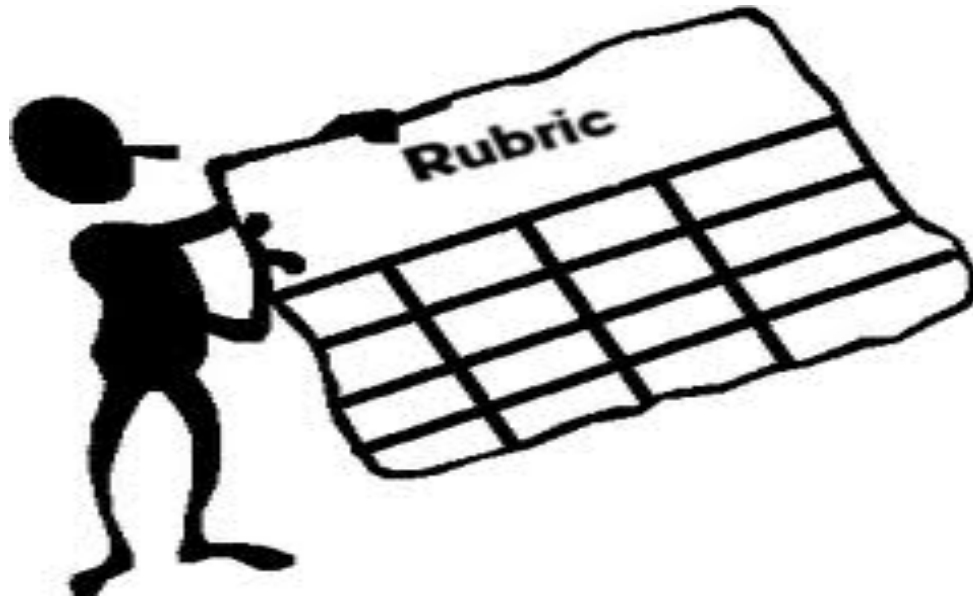
Comparing own work with that of peers

(Filius et al., 2019)



# Training & coaching

Train & coach students in how to carry out peer feedback (Min, chapter 8)



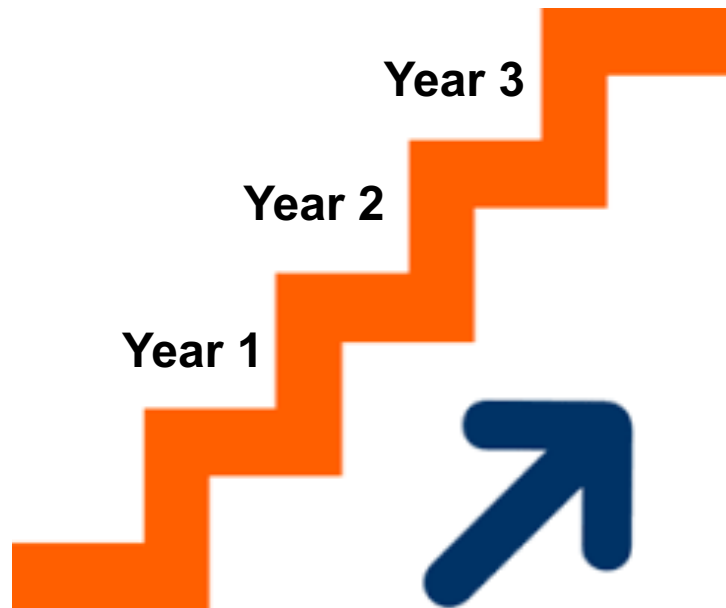
# Composing peer feedback

Providing feedback more cognitively engaging than receiving feedback (e.g. Nicol et al., 2014)



# Cumulative peer feedback

Need for multiple cumulative experiences of peer review during a programme  
(Harland, Wald & Randhawa 2017).





# **SHARED RESPONSIBILITIES IN DEVELOPING TEACHER & STUDENT FEEDBACK LITERACY**

# Feedback literacy

Know-how about how to maximise the benefits of feedback processes



# Shared responsibilities

Shared responsibilities in the giving & processing feedback (Nash & Winstone, 2017)



# **Defining teacher feedback literacy**

Capacities in designing feedback to enable student uptake & seed the development of student feedback literacy

(Carless & Winstone, in progress)

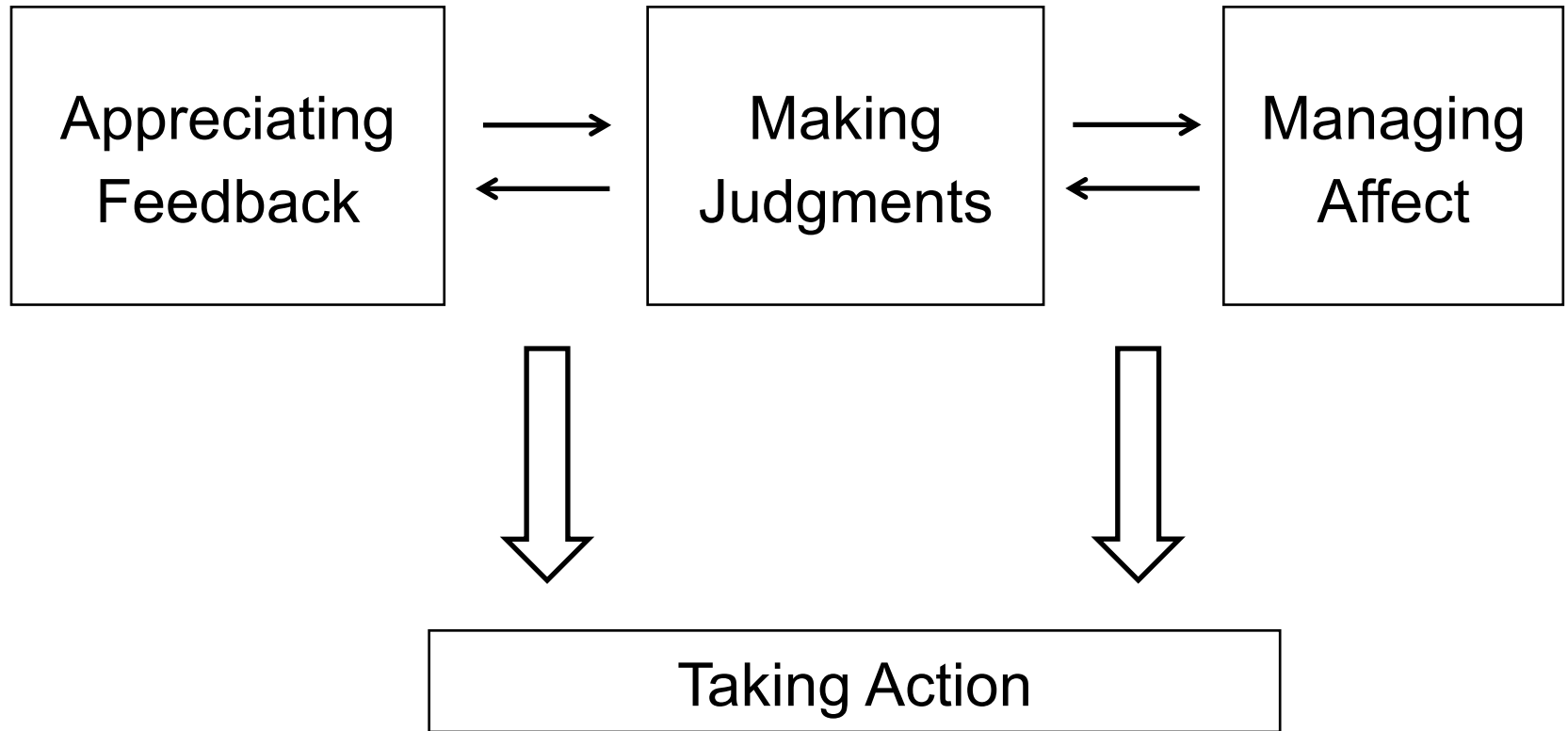
Designing for Uptake  
Relational Sensitivities  
Managing Practicalities

Teacher Feedback  
Literacy



Student Feedback  
Literacy

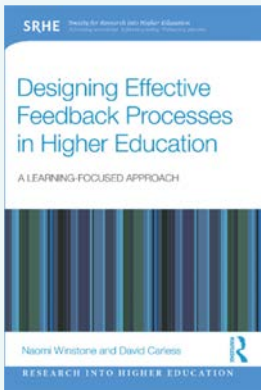
# Student feedback literacy



(Carless & Boud, 2018)



# Embedding within the curriculum?



## **Social Psychology**

‘Receiving Feedback’  
theme

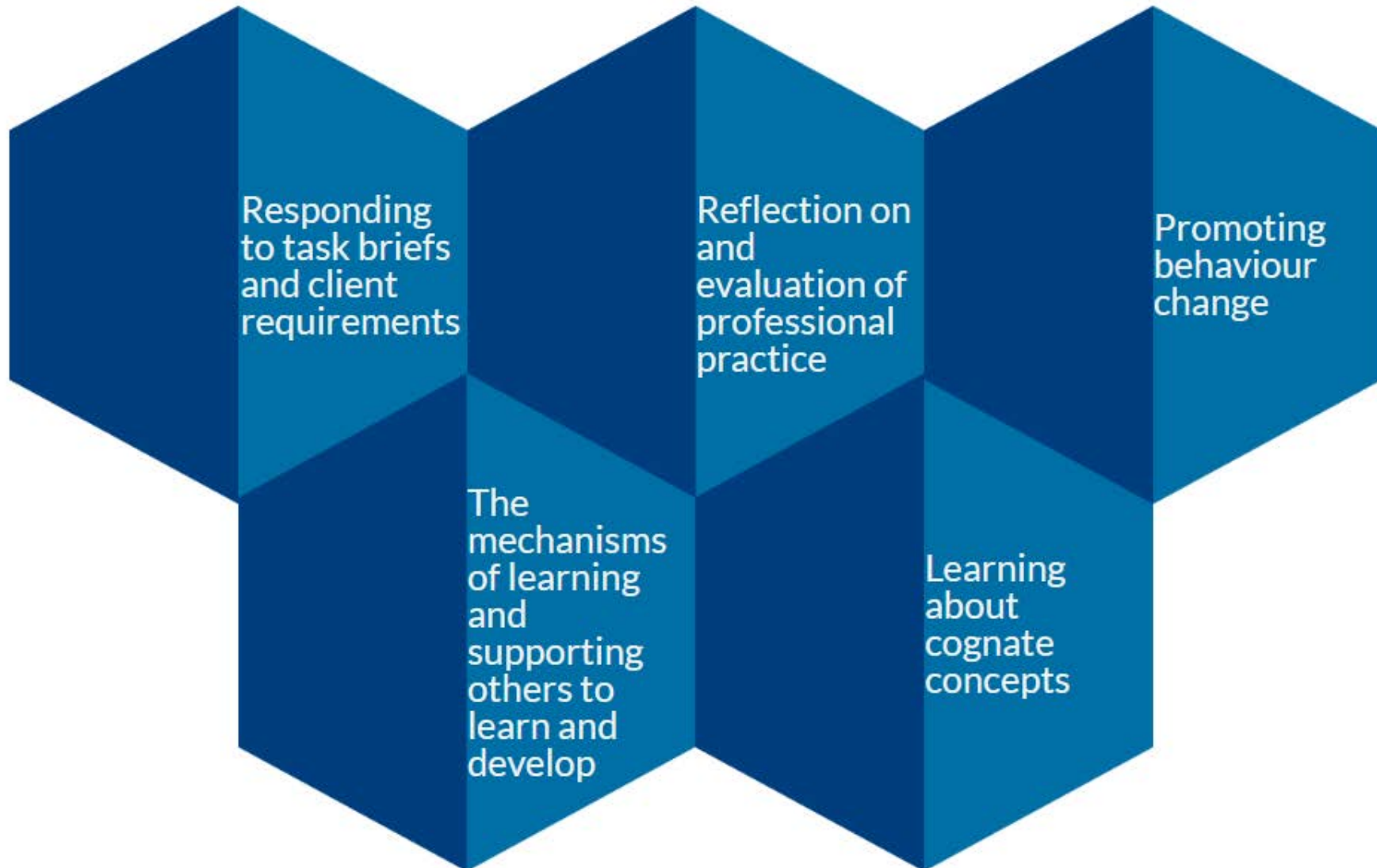
DEFT Feedback  
Workshop

Assignment: Apply  
social psychological  
theories to analyse  
their own responses to  
feedback

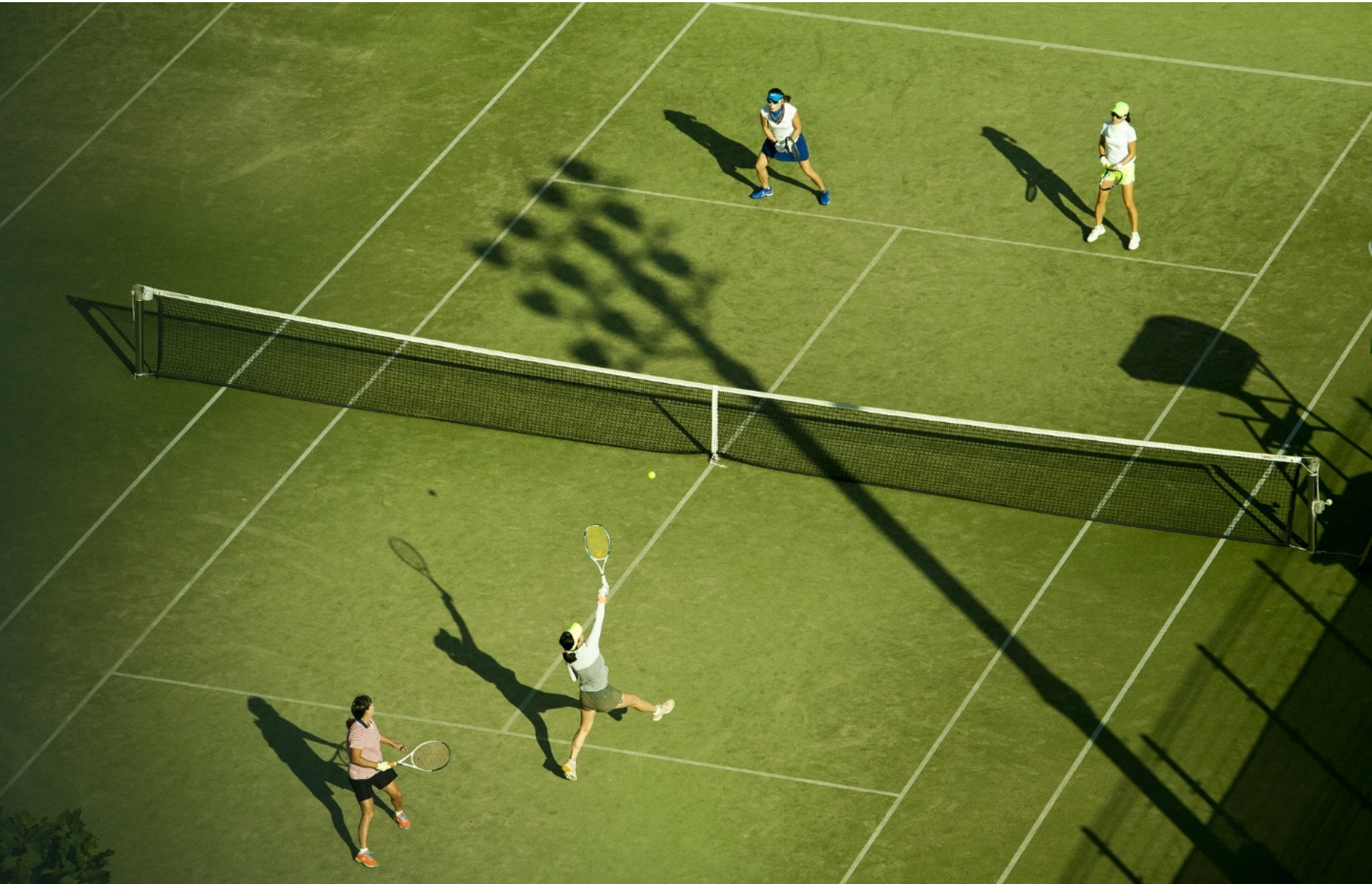
Taking feedback out of its  
educational context, does the  
concept of feedback hold any  
particular meaning or relevance  
that is specific to your discipline?

Can you think of any ways in which  
you could explain to students the  
importance of acting upon  
feedback, using concepts specific  
to their discipline of study?

# Embedding feedback literacy

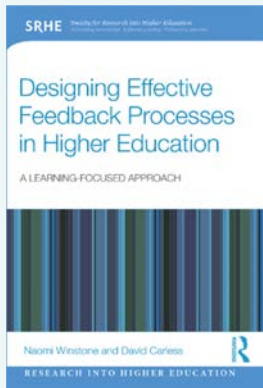


# Designing for uptake





# Encouraging feedback-seeking



## **Engineering and Psychology**

Interactive Cover Sheets

How prior feedback has been used

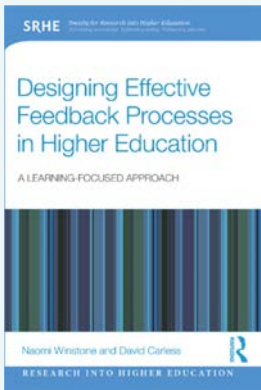
Where feedback should be directed on the current task

How can you encourage students to seek feedback on specific elements of their development?

# Designing for uptake



# Giving feedback 'somewhere to land'



## **Operating Department Practice**

Assignment tutorial

Facilitated discussion  
to revisit and apply  
feedback from  
assignment in previous  
year

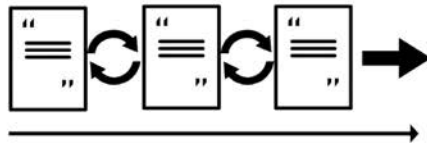
Group discussion

How can you facilitate students to revisit prior feedback when working on another relevant task or skill?

# Designing for uptake

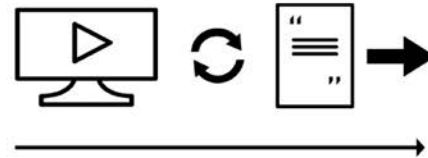
Winstone & Carless (2019)

## 1. Task series



Students complete a series of similar tasks (for example, a series of lab reports), where each cycle of feedback enables them to apply comments to the next iteration of the task.

## 2. Two-part tasks



Students undertake a first task (for example, a presentation), followed by a feedback process whereby they use the feedback to inform a second, related task (for example, a written report).

## 3. Draft-plus-rework



Students receive detailed comments on a draft assignment. When students submit the final assignment, a portion of the grade is reserved for evidence that they have used the feedback from the draft (for example, by completing a written reflection on their feedback use).

## 4. Pre-task guidance



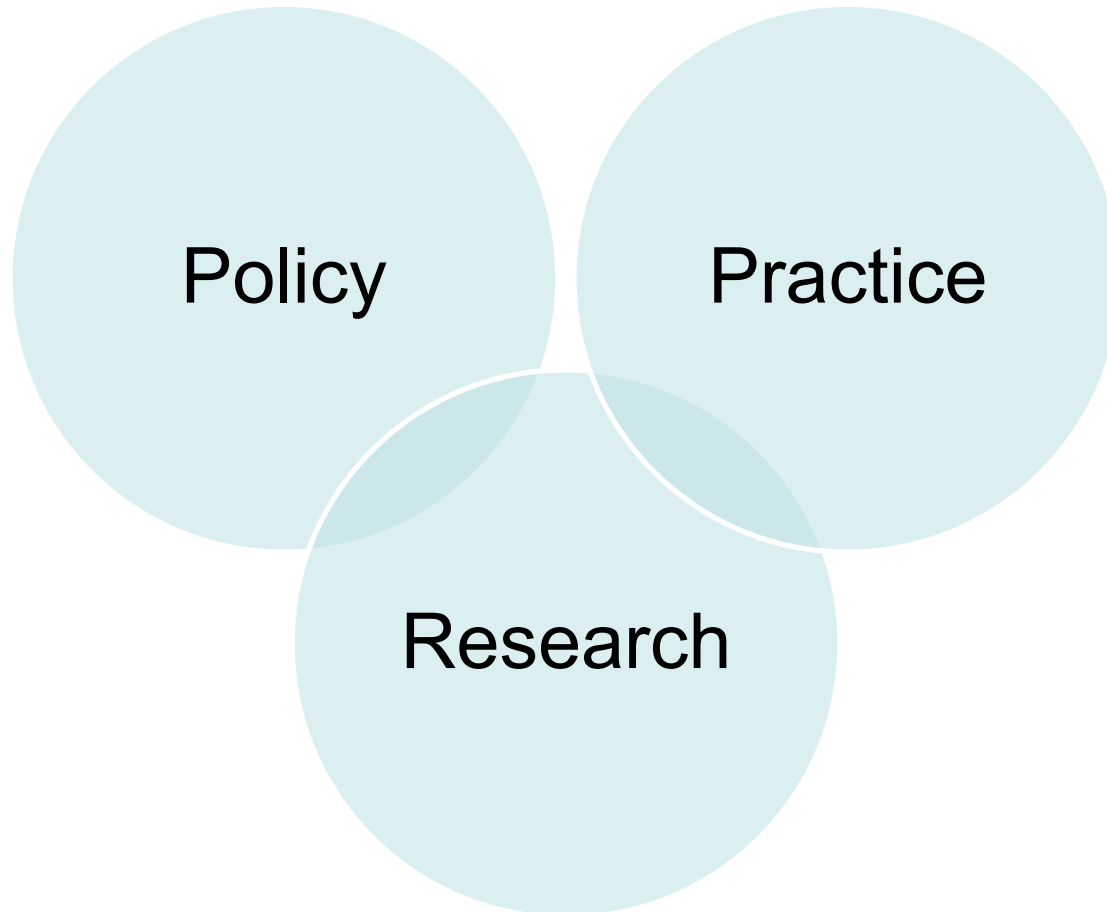
Students are given the opportunity to engage with rubrics, criteria, and/or exemplar assignments before completing their own assignment. This dialogue with peers and teachers serves as pre-task feedback that informs the approach they take.

# Implications





# Implications for...



# **Recommendations**

Design for student uptake

Minimise teacher telling

Involve students actively

Mutual development of feedback literacy

SRHE

*Society for Research into Higher Education*  
*Advancing knowledge. Informing policy. Enhancing practice.*

# Designing Effective Feedback Processes in Higher Education

A LEARNING-FOCUSED APPROACH

Naomi Winstone and David Carless



RESEARCH INTO HIGHER EDUCATION

DISCOUNT CODE:  
**FLR40**

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**THANK YOU**

