

Finding a Balance: Academic Integrity and Testing Accommodations

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HUMBER COLLEGE

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Agenda

- Conflicting role of Testing Services staff
- What is meant by academic integrity?
- Types of testing accommodations
- Differential boost theory
- What is the test actually testing?

- Questions and Discussion



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1. Conflicting Role of Testing Services Staff

You must be sensitive to students' needs. Carry out the accommodations.

You must be responsive to professor's needs. Monitor against misconduct.



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2. What is meant by academic integrity?

- Is it instances of cheating?
- Or is it belief that accommodations are compromising integrity of tests?



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2. What is meant by academic integrity?

- Providing accommodations for students with sensory or physical disabilities has rarely been questioned
- However, accommodations for students with disabilities that impact cognitive functioning have been more controversial
- Myths about testing accommodations exist!

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3. Types of testing accommodations

- Changes in the way a test is administered, the testing environment, equipment used or procedures that allow students to participate in testing but do not change the nature of the test
- Promotes more fairness, not less



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3. Types of testing accommodations

Hard Accommodations

Adjustable desk

Assistive software

Ergonomic Seating

Headphones /music

Rest breaks

Rest day between exams

Scribe

Extra time

Soft Accommodations

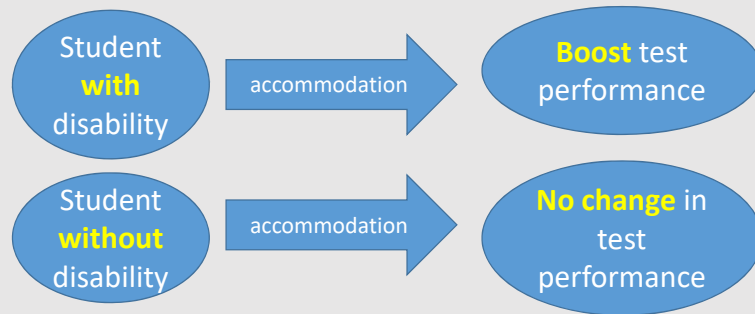
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4. Differential Boost theory

Test accommodations as Differential Boost (Fuchs and Fuchs, 2001)



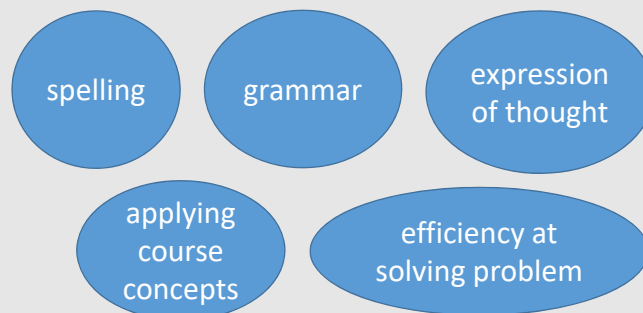
- Example 1 = questions read out-loud
- Example 2 = extra time to write exam

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5. What is the test actually testing?

- Writing a test can be intended to measure many skills:



- Maximize use of least intrusive accommodations

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Summary

- Conflicting role of Testing Services staff
- What is meant by academic integrity?
- Types of testing accommodations
- Differential boost theory
- What is the test actually testing?



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THANK YOU.



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