SEAN FITZPATRICK, University of Lethbridge

Adventures in Alternative Assessment: A review of my non-expert attempts to liberate my gradebook

A confession: despite knowing for some time that passive lectures and midterm exams can be bad for my students, I've never fully moved away from them. Why? Most likely some combination of logistics and lack of time to learn how to do it properly.

But that hasn't stopped me from trying new things: standards-based homework grading. Strictly cumulative points-based grading. Grading for growth. Some worked, some didn't, and in most cases it depends on the size and type of class.

I'll describe some of the things I've tried, and how they worked (or didn't) for me. I'll also discuss how I adapted to pandemic teaching, what I'm doing now, and what I'd still like to improve. I'll also bring some questions that I've never found satisfactory answers to, with the intent of generating discussion.