

Yes, There is Hope! Strategies Around Marking

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Abstract

Marking or grading has traditionally been seen as one of the most difficult, challenging, and for some the most unpleasant part of their academic jobs. This session suggests a variety of different approaches to marking that will help to make it less onerous, less time-consuming, and perhaps even fun. The presenter will talk about a unique system of colour-coded grading that she has developed which makes the comments on student work more transparent but also more meaningful. In addition, she will present a system she developed called "54321" which paces grading according to the professor's own time constraints and attention span. The session will also discuss flexible deadlines for providing feedback to students, a number of helpful rubrics for marking as well as to manage student expectations and work, and will reflect philosophically on why grading is a particularly difficult task. Delving into the professor's time management style, the session will also make suggestions as to when to grade and even where. This fast-paced, informative session is meant to help those who are starting out in their marking careers, and those who have been in the trenches for a number of years.