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Seeking Solutions: The Challenges of Authentic Assessment for Criminology

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Universities have come under increased pressure to better prepare graduates for the workplace (Ellström and Ellström 2014), providing them with both the knowledge and skills relevant to their discipline. This presentation considers the incorporation of authentic assessment into the criminology curriculum at Aberystwyth University (AU). It explores some of the ways in which we look to better engage our students through meaningful modes of assessment, that develop graduate skills in a real world manner. However given the nature of the discipline, the geographical location of AU and the reluctance by some students to engage with modes of authentic assessment, this presentation outlines some of the challenges faced by criminology (that may also be relevant to other disciplines). It encourages active engagement by the audience, to seek solutions and overcome challenges that look to inform and improve current practice.

