What can we do?

Check for students’ preparedness for your course

Low-stakes pretest

Ask students to assess their knowledge
Pre-Testing for Prior Knowledge

Purpose of pre-testing for prior knowledge:

– Determine gaps in understanding & misconceptions
– Activate appropriate prior-knowledge
Pre-Test Implementation

- Administer pre-test 1\textsuperscript{st} week of course or unit
- Assess results quickly & address implications
Types of Pre-Test Questions

• Determine types of prior content knowledge
• Questions tailored to type of knowledge
Finding or Making a Pre-Test for Your Course

- Many pre-tests are available online
- Make your own pre-test for prior knowledge
After You Assess the Pre-Test Results

• Determine misconceptions or gaps in understanding
• Action Plan to address the prior knowledge deficits?
• Discuss the results with your class
Prior Knowledge Pre-Test Outcomes

• Address prior-knowledge deficits
• Allows course changes & curriculum planning
• Science of learning research shows benefits
Combining Pre-Tests & Post-Tests

• Identify how effectively students are learning
  – Integrating prior knowledge with course concepts
  – For formative use (guide future course teaching)
Thank you for joining us!

- Questions about pre-tests?
  - Lauren.Kordonowy@unh.edu
Questions?
Comments?