



Accreditation in medical education: Principles & Practice

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Accreditation

Accreditation is an evaluation process in which a program is being reviewed by some people external to the program and has positive and punitive impact

Pamela Catton

Annals of RCPSC, 1999, 32, 441-448



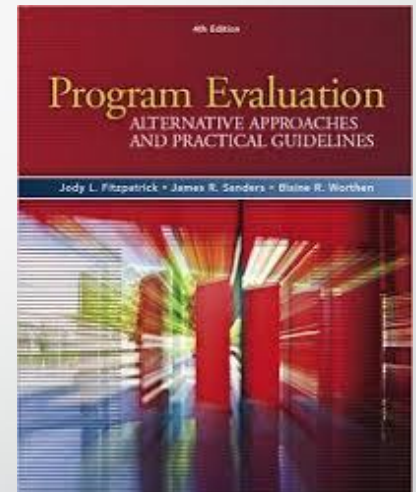
accreditation

- External
- Summative



Accreditation

A type of formal professional Review
system



Worthen B.R.

Program evaluation, Longman, 4th edition

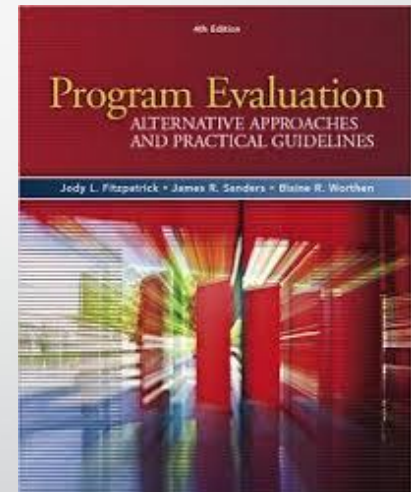


Expertise oriented program evaluation

This approach is decidedly different because of its direct, **open reliance on subjective professional expertise** as the primary evaluation strategy

Worthen B.R.

Program evaluation, Longman, 4th edition



Origin of different approaches

Difference in evaluators in:

- Ideology and philosophy
- Methodologic preferences
- Past experiences
- Answering different needs
- Practical considerations



Accreditation

- External
- Summative
- Constructivist
- Subjectivist
- Qualitative



Formal Professional Review System

- *Structure or organization* established to conduct periodic reviews
- *Published standards* (and possibly instruments) for use in such reviews
- *A pre-specified schedule* (for example 5 years) on which reviews will be conducted
- *Opinions of several experts* combining to reach the overall judgments of value
- An *impact* on the status of that which is reviewed, depending on the outcome



accreditation

- External
- Summative
- Constructivist
- Subjectivist
- Qualitative
- Criterion referenced



Accreditation vs ranking

Accreditation	Ranking
External	External
Summative	Summative
Constructivism	Positivism
Subjectivism	Objectivism
Qualitative	Quantitative
Criterion- referenced	Norm- referenced



Areas

- Education
- Service (health care systems)
- Research



Types of educational accreditation

- Institutional
- Specialized (program)



Scope of specialized accreditation

For example in Medicine:

- Undergraduate Medical Education
- Postgraduate Medical Education
- Continuous Medical Education



Standards in accreditation

- One of the most important parts of any accreditation system
- It is important even without any accreditation process
- Define the qualities in the perspective of accreditation agency
- Usually defined at different levels (must, should)
- Should be defined in a participatory and inclusive process



Standards in accreditation

- Mission and vision
- Governance
- Curriculum
- Students
- Faculty members
- Resources
- Student assessment
- Program evaluation



Accreditation process

- Conducting self-study by the institution based on accreditation standards
- Submitting the self-study report to the accreditation agency
- Review of the self-study report by the site visit team
- Conducting site visit by an external team from accreditation agency
- Submitting the site visit report to the accreditation agency
- Making decision on accreditation status of the program by the accreditation agency

