

Traditional	Standards-Based	Standards-Referenced
Letter grades/Percentage system	Based on a defined number of learning levels	Based on traditional grade levels
Students move through the system at the pace of other students their age	Students move through systems based on achievement at each level	Students move through the system at the pace of other students their age
Various factors are used to determine curriculum and student progress - often based on individual teachers	Standards are used to guide curriculum and student progress	Standards are used to guide curriculum and student progress
Time is constant; learning is variable	Learning is constant; time is variable	Time is constant; learning is variable
Often norm-referenced or mixture of norm and criterion-referenced	Criterion-referenced	Criterion-referenced
Everything is scored regardless of purpose Homework is a major factor	Summative assessments only are used for grade	Summative assessments only are used for grade
Mix of achievement, attitude, effort, and behavior	Achievement only	Achievement only
Multiple assessments recorded as an average	Most recent evidence emphasized	
Reassessment (if allowed) is with penalty	Reassessment without penalty	Reassessment without penalty
The mean is the measure Grades "calculated"	Median and mode used Grades "determined" using professional judgement	