Formative & Summative Evaluation Resources

For a cogent discussion of **formative vs. summative** evaluation—not specific to training—see a brief article by William M. K. Trochim, "Introduction to Evaluation," in the Research Methods Knowledge Base. Additionally, The University of Michigan's Center for Research on Teaching and Learning provides links to resources on types of evaluation. Additional resources to explore on methods and procedures you can use to develop effective evaluations include the following:

Website Resources

Assessment: Formative and Summative Evaluation provides links to resources that are useful in conducting an evaluation to understand strengths and weakness of a curriculum or training. It is maintained by the University of Michigan.

Florida Gulf Coast University provides methods and procedures for formative and summative course evaluation that should be carefully planned in the course design process.

Introduction to Evaluation provides a definition of evaluation as well as goals, strategies, types of evaluation, and methods that can be used. It is a section in The Research Methods Knowledge Base, which is a comprehensive web-based textbook that addresses all of the topics in a typical introductory undergraduate or graduate course in social research methods.

What is a summative evaluation provides links to resources on conducting summative evaluation.

Articles, Reports, and Other Resources

Developing a Project Management Plan is an article that provides a concise description of quality assurance and how formative evaluation can be used to determine if you have achieved your goals or if there have been unintended consequences.

Formative Evaluation Checklist provides several online checklists that can be used instructional designers and specialists, subject matter experts, and training managers.

Formative Evaluation is an article by Susan Allen Nan that describes how formative evaluation is particularly useful for evaluating long-term conflict resolution work in intractable conflicts.

Wikipedia provides a detailed description and examples of different types of **formative evaluation** as well as implementation guidelines.

Wikipedia provides a description and examples of different types of **summative evaluations**.