

The Promises and Challenges of Implementing Evidence-centered Design in Large Scale Assessment

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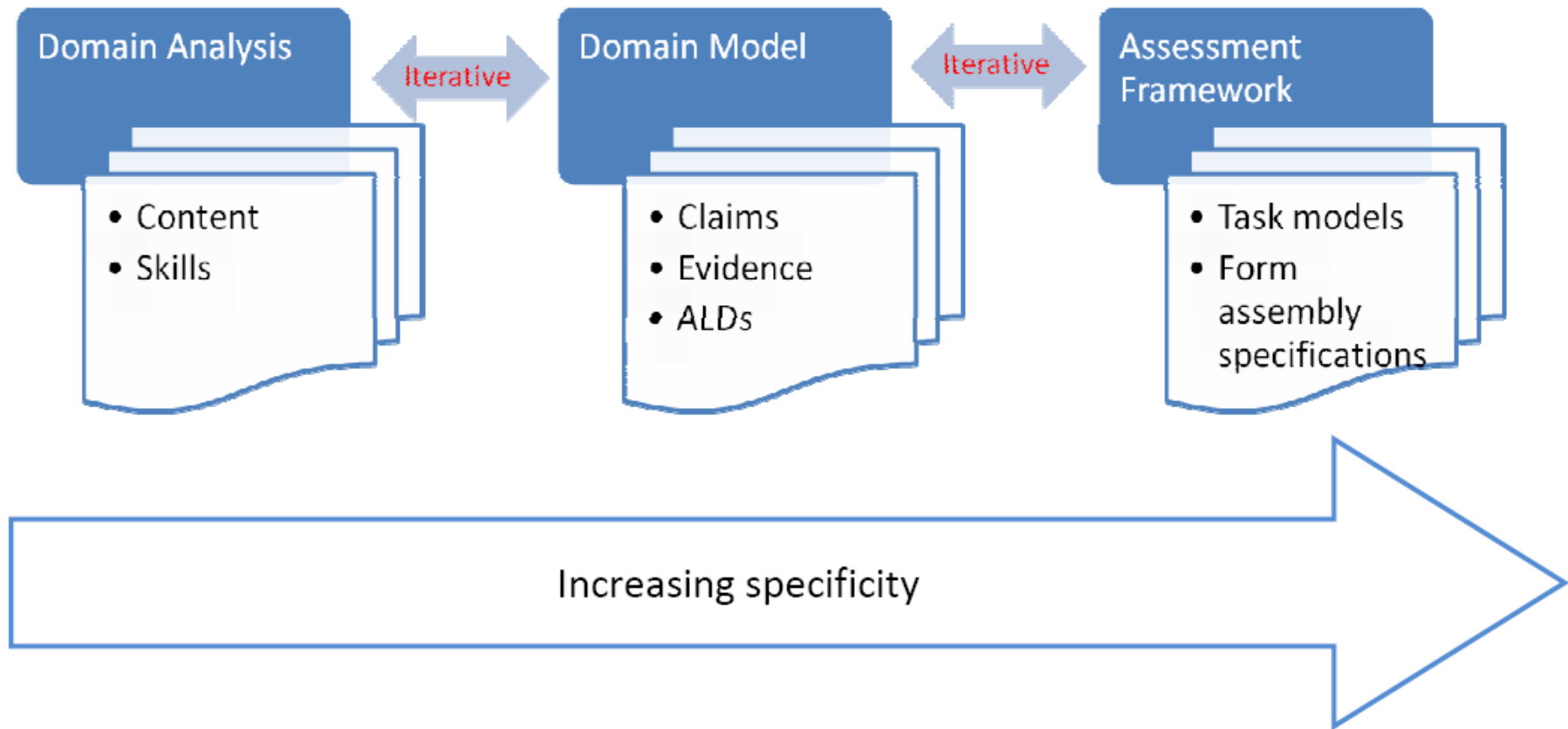
NCME 2009

San Diego

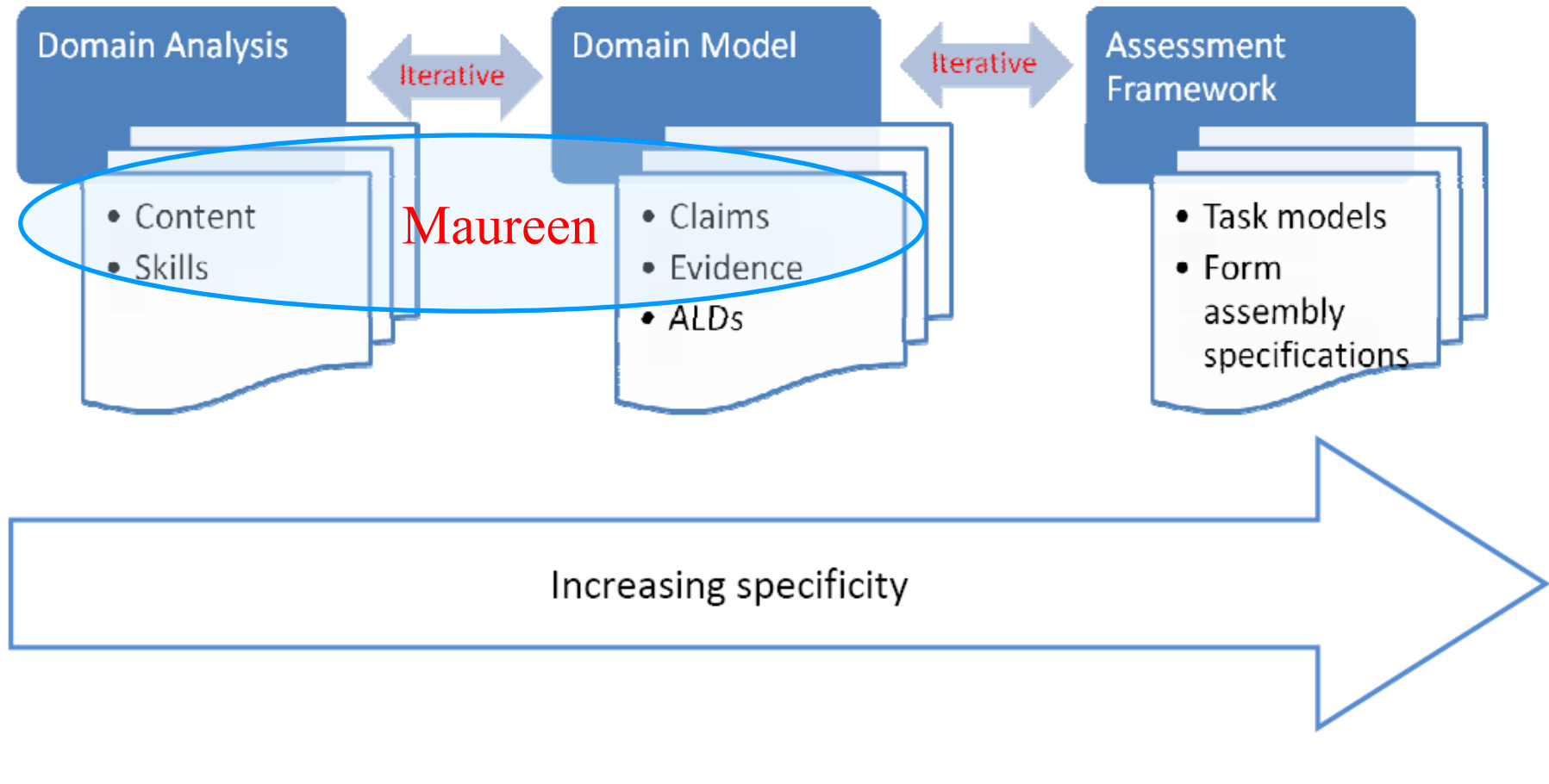
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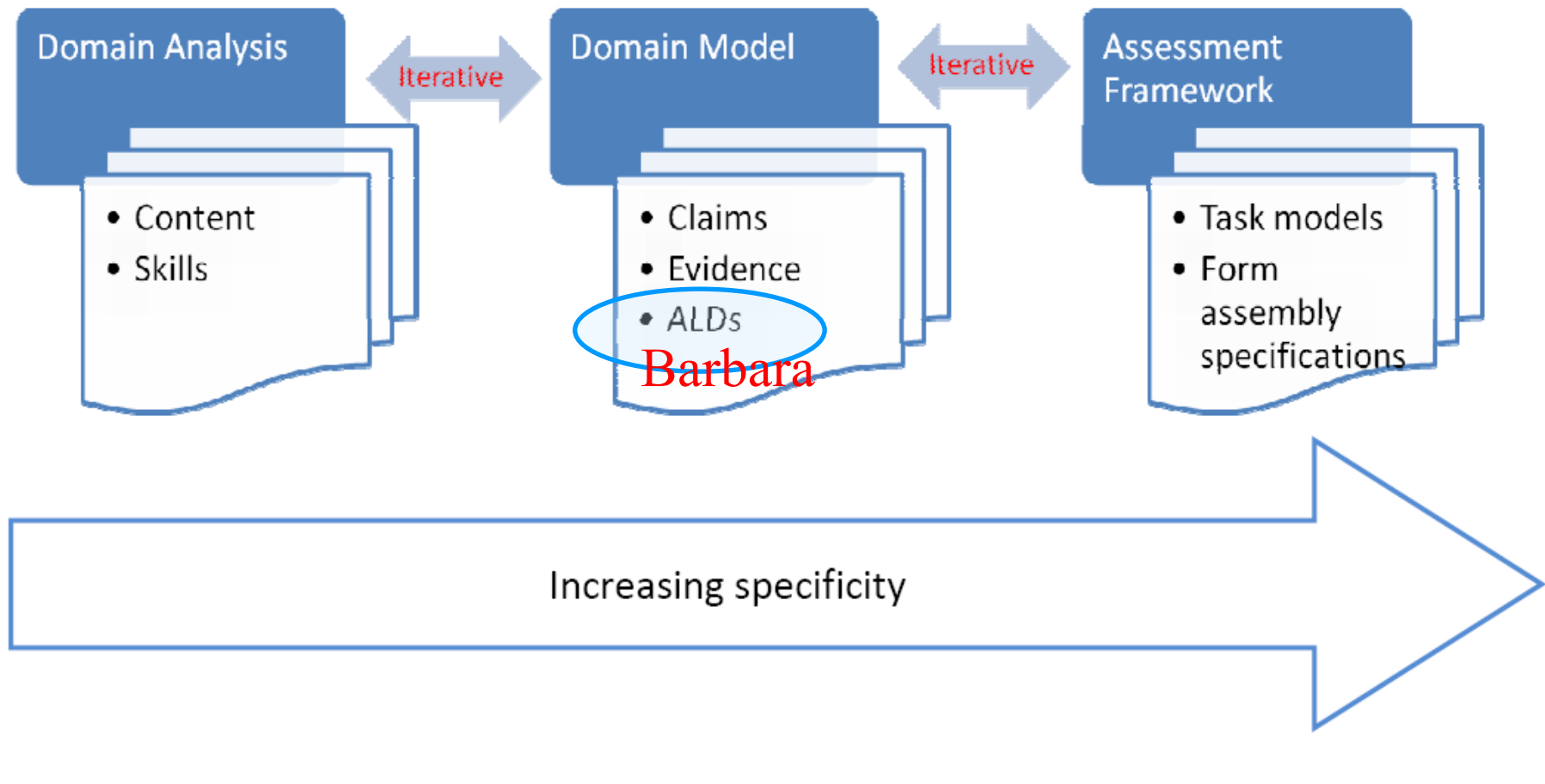
Overview of Session



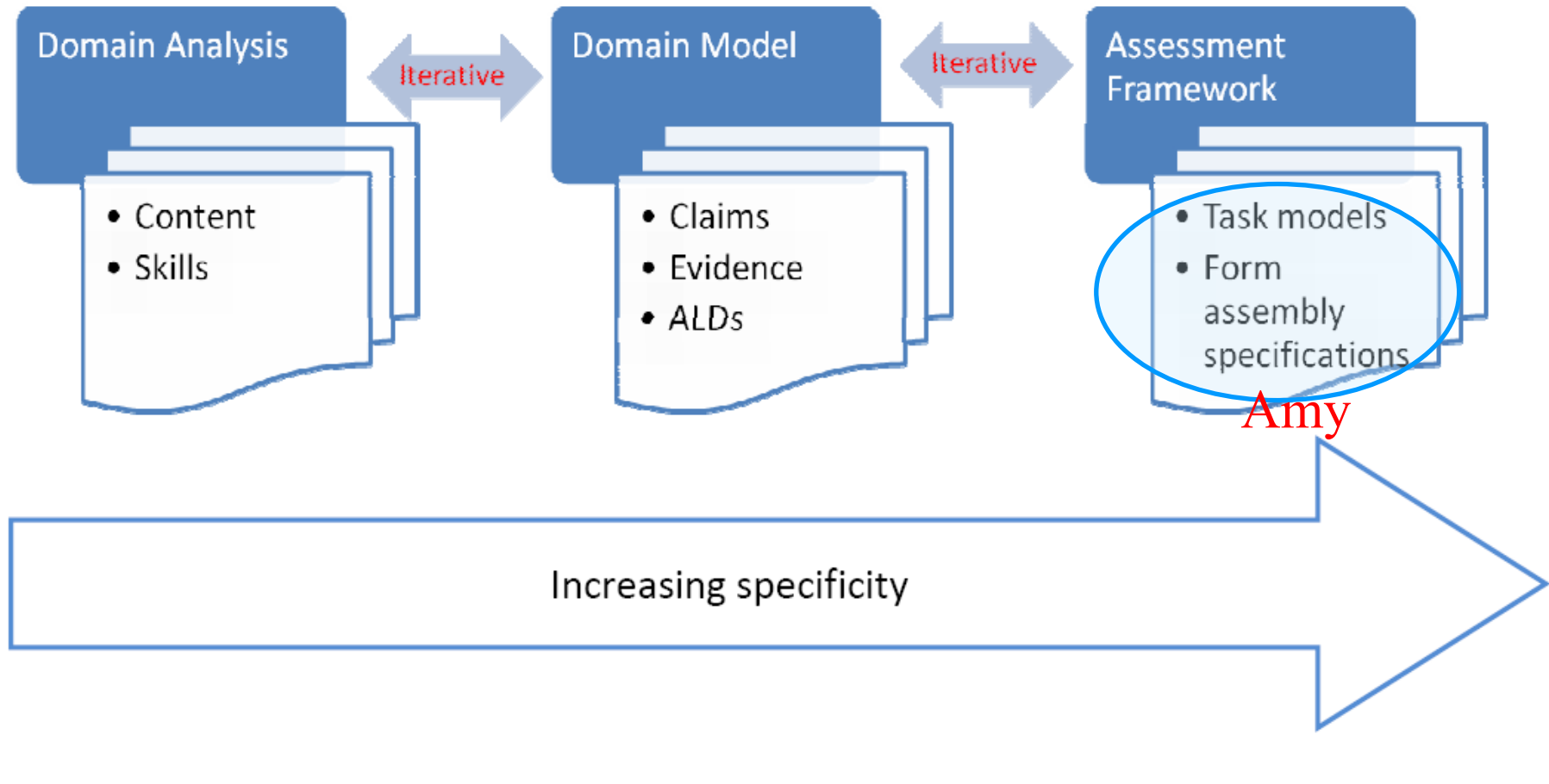
Overview of Session



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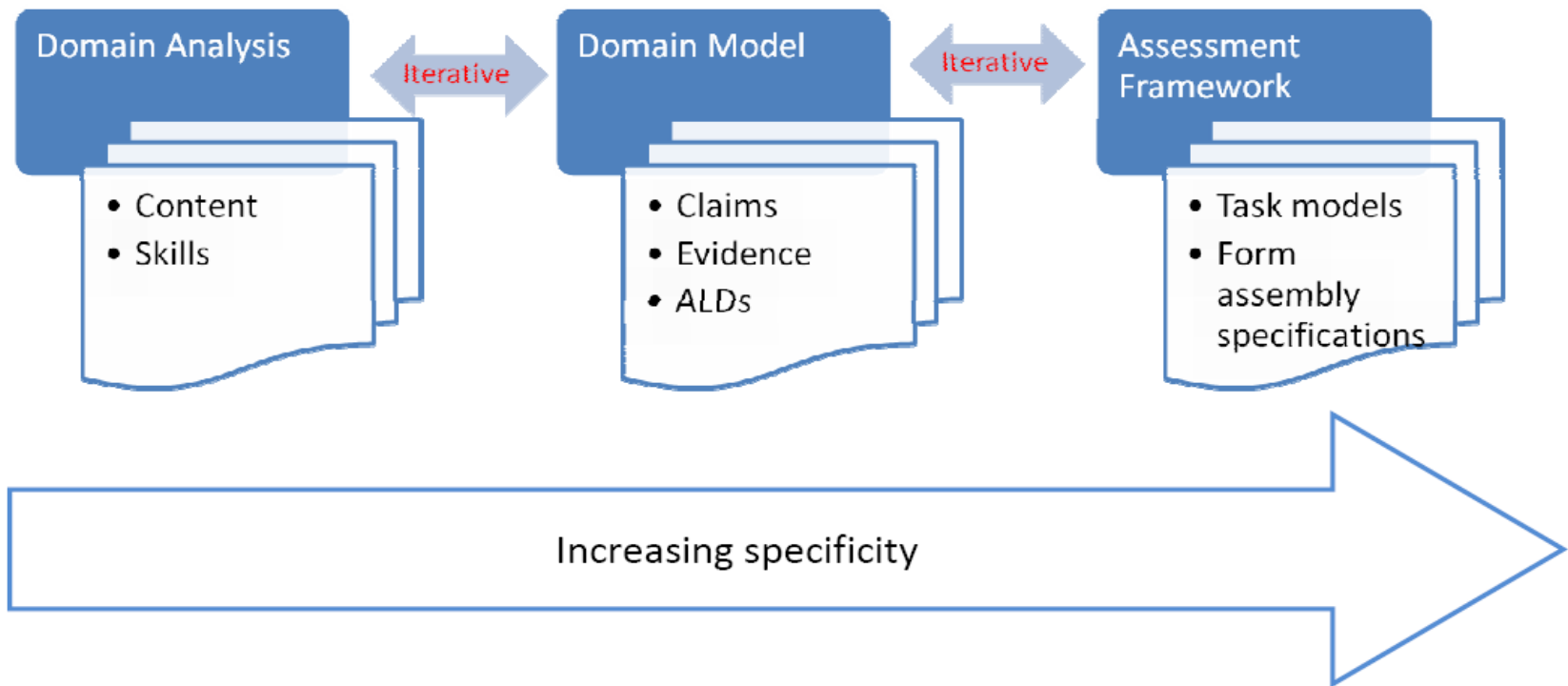


Why ECD for Advanced Placement?

Two challenges

- (1) Incorporate contemporary notions of learning and assessment
- (2) Ensure comparability of test forms

Evidentiary reasoning: Explicit and transparent



Benefits of ECD for AP

- (1) **Alignment of course and exam**
- (2) Explication of deep conceptual understanding and complex reasoning
- (3) Foundation for comparable scores
- (4) Structure for valid interpretation of scores

Deep conceptual understanding and complex reasoning skills defined through claims, evidence and achievement level descriptions

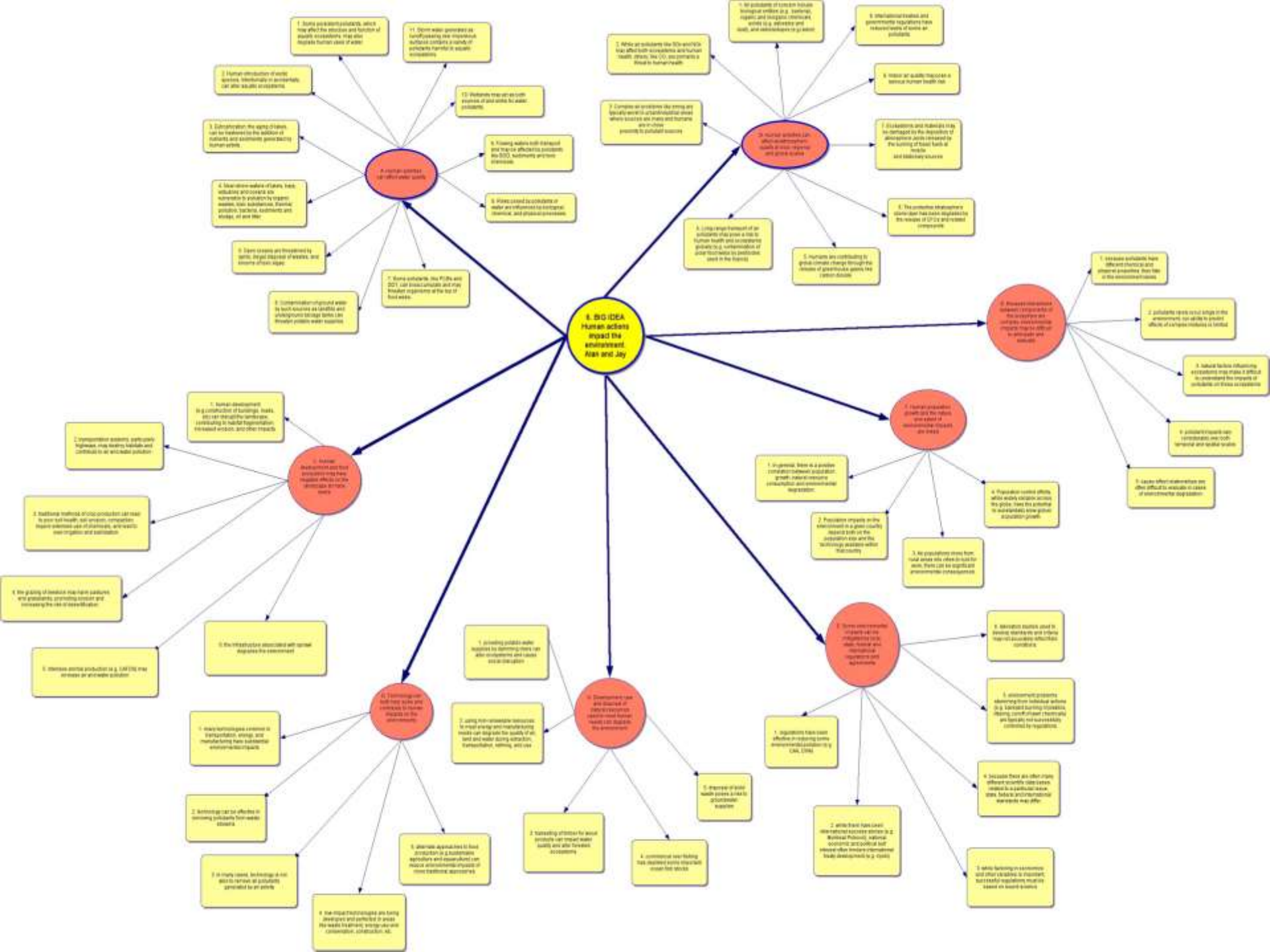
Course materials

ALIGNMENT

Item design
Item development
Form assembly specifications

Benefits of ECD for AP

- (1) Alignment of course and exam
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Complex reasoning skills

- Organized, e.g., hierarchical
- Unambiguous language
 - Student knows....
 - Student understands...
 - Evaluate, analyze: synonyms
- Observable evidence

Observable evidence for reasoning skills

Claim: *Student can analyze historical patterns...*

Observable evidence of analysis:

Significant depth and quantity of historical information expressed as main concepts and subordinate details; disparate, relevant information brought together in persuasive argument; application of historical meaning in multiple contexts; clear, comprehensive and sophisticated thesis; recognition of relationships between various levels of abstraction juxtaposed together...

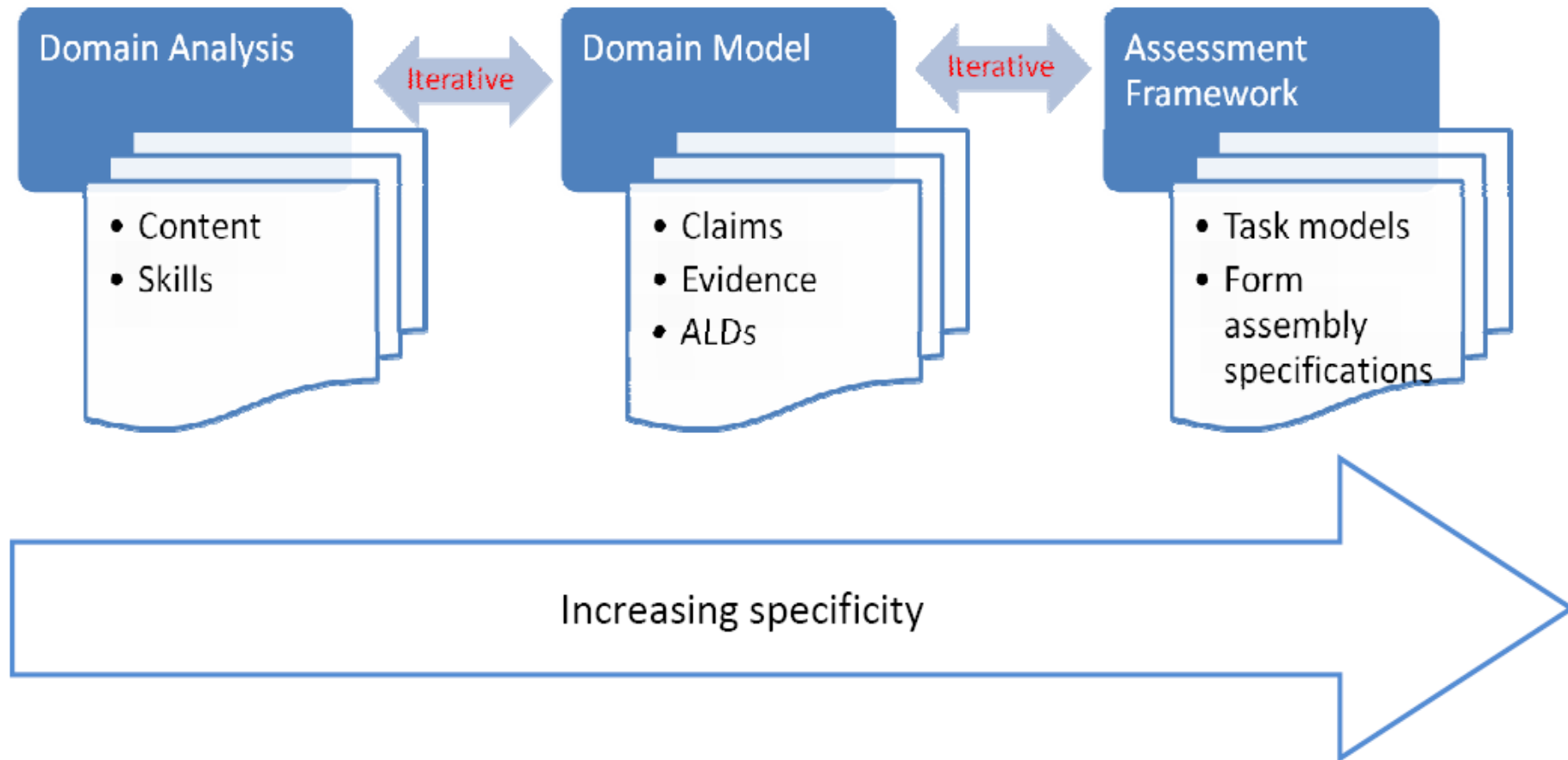
Observable evidence for reasoning skills

To design new kinds of situations for capturing the complexity of cognition and learning will require examining the assumptions and values that currently drive assessment design choices and breaking out of the current paradigm to explore alternative approaches to large-scale assessment – NRC, 2001

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ECD: What is it?



Benefits of ECD for AP

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- (4) Structure for valid interpretation of scores**
 - **ECD's transparent evidentiary reasoning = Kane's (2006) interpretive argument**

Challenges

- ECD requires resource investment up front
- ECD benefits are limited without proper infrastructure
- Terminology/jargon can be a barrier
- ECD requires fresh perspective on nature and role of evidence in assessment

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