

# Teacher-Made Course Evaluations

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The beauty of teacher-made evaluations is that they provide valuable information for improving your course anytime during the semester. By being open to students' suggestions, you are actively pursuing your professional growth, which in turn, encourages students to strive to improve as well.

Teacher-made evaluations will yield more thoughtful, and perhaps more meaningful, responses if you give students time to reflect on the questions. A quick and easy approach is to ask students to describe one thing they find helpful during the semester and something else they find more challenging. Students can record their comments on index cards that they turn in at the end of class. The following week, devote time to discuss the feedback.

Another approach is to tailor a questionnaire for your class. You may ask about critiques, assignments, pacing, guest speakers, field trips, homework, projects, quizzes/tests or other aspects of your course. Below are a few different approaches to asking for student feedback:

## **Students assess their own progress:**

The outcomes for this course are: \_\_\_\_\_.

Check off the outcomes you've met, and comment on what you have done to meet them.

What are your personal learning goals in this class? Are you meeting them? Why or why not?

What grade would you give yourself in this class? Why? What can you do to improve your grade.

## **Students give feedback on your teaching:**

Discussion is an important part of this course. I aim to facilitate discussion so that,

1. Everyone participates.
2. Discussions stay on topic.
3. No one monopolizes the conversation.

Please circle the points that I am doing well. If you think I could improve on one of the points listed above, please provide a concrete suggestion for improvement. [Note: Students may be reluctant to give this kind of feedback if they perceive that it is not anonymous.]

## **Students give feedback on the course and activities:**

We used three critique formats this semester. Which should I use more or less frequently next semester? (Circle one)

Small group critique: use more.....use the same amount.....use less  
Gallery walk: use more.....use the same amount.....use less  
Client role play: use more.....use the same amount.....use less

## **A few more ideas for using teacher- made evaluations:**

Do not duplicate questions from Official AAU course evaluations.

Avoid asking students what they liked or disliked. Instead ask students about the course content and their experience as learners.

Only ask questions if you really want to hear the answer.



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