Improving Teaching and Learning for Better Course Evaluations!

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Avoid These Kind of Reviews
Importance of Good Evaluations

* Why do we care?
* What matters?
* Public Record Example
Objectives

1) Understand how students will be evaluating:
   * your course content
   * your classroom instruction

2) How to improve:
   * your course content
   * your classroom instruction

3) Cover evaluation day strategies
The course materials helped me understand the subject matter.

- Book
- Slides
- Notes/handouts
- Homework
- Activities
Course Materials
Course Content: Course Objectives

- The work required of me was appropriate based on course objectives.
  - Do your projects/activities/homework help students learn the material?
  - Is the amount of work excessive?
Course Content: Measuring Learning

* The tests, projects, etc. accurately measured what I learned in this class.
  * Assessment: Exams and Quizzes
    * Item analysis (for multiple choice exams)
    * Stress the importance of topics
      * Test on these topics!
    * Review
  * Relevance of class material
  * Provide detailed rubrics to students
* The course encouraged me to think critically.
  * How can you encourage critical thinking in...?
    * ...in your classroom discussion and activities?
    * ...in your assignments and projects?
  * Encouraging critical thinking in your lectures
Activity

BLOOM’S TAXONOMY

- **Evaluation**: Assessing theories; Comparison of ideas; Evaluating outcomes; Solving; Judging; Recommending; Rating
- **Synthesis**: Using old concepts to create new ideas; Design and invention; Composing; Imagining; Inferring; Modifying; Predicting; Combining
- **Analysis**: Identifying and analyzing patterns; Organisation of ideas; recognizing trends
- **Application**: Using and applying knowledge; Using problem solving methods; Manipulating; Designing; Experimenting
- **Comprehension**: Understanding; Translating; Summarising; Demonstrating; Discussing
- **Knowledge**: Recall of information; Discovery; Observation; Listing; Locating; Naming
I learned a great deal in this course.

- Being engaging and relatable
- Midterm evaluations
- Formative assessment
- Course objectives
- Pace of learning
The instructor provided clear expectations for the course.

- High expectations for students to do well
  - Establish this early!
- Detailed Syllabus/Rubrics
- State Daily Expectations
The instructor communicated effectively.

- Reminders of upcoming due dates
  - In multiple places!
- Go over assignments in class
- Provide exam reviews/packets
- Respond to emails
- Hold and be available for office hours
The instructor stimulated my interest in the subject matter.

* Incorporate different types of media/technology
* Engaging activities to break-up lecture
* Real world examples
* Relatable examples
* Make learning fun!
Stimulating Interest!
The instructor provided helpful feedback on my work.

- Drafts for papers or projects
- Provide constructive feedback
- Be specific, timely, and relevant
- Know about available resources
The instructor demonstrated respect for students.

- Be understanding of life events and other obligations
- Learn student names (or as many as possible)
- Be punctual and prepared
- Wear proper attire
Understanding Issues Outside the Classroom
The instructor demonstrated mastery of the subject matter.

- Prep for class
  - Anticipate questions and concerns
  - Work out examples and problems in advance
- Don’t be afraid to use notes
- “That’s a great question, let me research it and get back to you next time.”
Evaluation Day Tips

* Bring pencils and remind students to use them
* Give evaluations on a day you anticipate high attendance
  * Consider giving extra-credit, or a review packet before administering them
* Have a responsible student proctor
* Go over directions
  * Remember the responses read right to left
Conclusion

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Any Questions?

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