



Mid-Semester Check: Gathering Student Feedback

End-of-course evaluations provide important information, but they do little to address the needs of your current students. Gathering student feedback in the midst of a semester gives insight into the students' thoughts regarding their own learning. Midcourse evaluations provide a mechanism for gaining clarification or addressing concerns in the current semester, while there is still time to make small adjustments that benefit everyone.

Questions that are positively framed and that refer to student learning generally promote constructive responses. Midway through your course, ask your students to write responses to open-ended questions similar to the following:

1. What is working well for you in terms of your learning in this course?
2. What can your instructor do to better facilitate your understanding of the content in this course?
3. What else is important for your instructor to know?

Gathering student feedback at the semester midpoint provides the opportunity for rich class conversations regarding student learning. Discussing student feedback during class and working through any issues or concerns before the semester is over shows students that you value their ideas regarding their own learning. These conversations also provide the instructor an opportunity for explaining to students why some things cannot or will not be changed.

The midcourse evaluation process provides the best results when student feedback is anonymous. ITLE is happy to facilitate this process, as well as provide a consultation regarding the results.