

Purdue Policies - End of Semester Student Evaluations

A list of all policies

- Undergraduate courses with enrollment of 7 or greater must conduct evaluations
- Department heads have the right to request official evaluations through Instructional Data Processing
- There are 10 Core questions, and a total of 15 questions may be used

-and that is all

Five Assumptions about Course Evaluations

- SETs are valuable resources for improving teaching and giving students a voice in the learning process
- SETs reflect the biases in society and higher education, and some questions are more useful than others
- Numerical data from SETs have become the *de facto* comparative benchmark for gauging teaching effectiveness in P&T
- Students are NOT particularly well-suited to evaluate certain elements of teaching
- Students ARE particularly well-suited to evaluate certain elements of the course and learning environment

Where SETs May Fall Short

- Disciplinary Expertise
- Specific Pedagogical Choices
- Use of Technology
- Grading Practices
- Learning Outcomes

What Students Can Uniquely Contribute

- Perceptions of the Learning Environment
- Individual Motivation to Complete Course Content
- How the Instructor Made Them Feel
- Connection between Activities and Assessment
- Transparency of Course Requirements

What Can You Do

- Look for Trends, Not Outliers
- Conduct Feedback Regularly, Not Simply at the End
- Target Student Feelings of Competence & Relatedness in the Course
- Ask about Assessment
- Consider the Evolving Nature of Our Jobs
- Minimize Destructive Criticism

Answers to Your Questions

- What do I do with a low response rate? Can I bribe students to complete them?
- How much can departments modify the evaluations?
- Do we know what makes a student more or less likely to complete an evaluation?
- How do clinical and practice rotations coordinate with instructional/supervisors evaluations?
- How do evaluations support the promotion process?
- How can I report the new question results effectively on promotion and tenure documentation