



Course Evaluations

While a powerful tool, course evaluations don't actually have an impact on your experience within a class. If you're struggling with a course or professor check out [Don't Wait for Course Evaluations](#).

It's time to fill out course evaluations. Whether you're bursting with glowing praise or itching to give a piece of your mind it's important to understand where these things go and what they achieve.

You have two options for every evaluation.

1. **Remain anonymous.** Your feedback is sent only to the instructor with no identifying information attached.
2. **Sign your name.** Your feedback is available to the instructor, department chair and the provost. The evaluation is kept in the instructor's record.

What impact does my evaluation have?

It depends. Most professors appreciate feedback so they can make course improvements. The more students ask for a particular change, the more likely that change will be considered. Signed evaluations are kept on the instructor's record. Student evaluations included in the record are sometimes pulled when instructors are being considered for promotions or looking for jobs at other schools.

If you feel strongly about your feedback, book an appointment with the instructor or a program manager and have a conversation in person.

Course evaluation best practices.

1. Do consider the course as a whole, try not to zero in on one single event or assignment.
2. Don't just say what you liked or disliked. Be sure to explain *why* you felt that way.
3. Do express criticism in a way that can be heard. Your feedback won't be taken seriously if it's written impolitely.
4. Don't forget the good things! The instructor needs to know what worked well in the class.

Example.

First Draft:

Class went over way too many times. Ms. Smith didn't seem to care about that at all and would get pissed off every time we packed up early.

Try Again:

Class went over quite a few times. That was problematic for me, as I felt rude leaving while Ms. Smith was talking, but also had to get to my next class across campus. I appreciated that she put the PowerPoint slides up on Canvas before class. I was able to print them out to take notes on, which was really helpful.

What to expect from SCRC. We can talk strategies on how to bring up a concern to a professor, who to talk to if you've already tried speaking with your professor, and how to effectively give negative feedback.