

# Increase Student Feedback Response



Higher education institutions struggle to get students to provide feedback in end-of-semester surveys (sometimes called “course evaluations”). This results in a poor understanding of how students are experiencing their courses. It is also a missed opportunity for faculty to correct mistakes, streamline work and overall best reach students. Consider these research-based strategies for how you can increase student feedback regarding your course.

**Describe how your course has been designed based on student feedback.** At the beginning of a semester, explain how student input shows itself in class materials, assessment strategies and other aspects of the course. This promotes a culture of continual feedback from the start.

**Ask for student feedback early in the course.** Consider varied ways to gather feedback from your students on their experience in the course, from five-minute discussions in class to two-question surveys on Moodle. Doing so early in the course allows early intervention for students struggling with the course. Addressing these issues early can increase the likelihood of positive survey results.

**Solicit formal mid-semester feedback, and respond to this feedback soon after.** Mid-semester feedback gives you the opportunity to design your own feedback questions. Soon after collecting this feedback, report to the class the main results of the feedback and how you will or will not incorporate the feedback, and why.

**Promote survey participation explicitly.** When the university feedback survey is available to students, remind them multiple times to complete the survey. Make your class environment conducive to completing the survey by allowing time in class to complete it and posting the survey link in emails and course webpages.

For more ideas related to these strategies, view these Teaching Tips (TT) and Quick Notes (QN):

- [Progress Report Journals: Reflecting on Course Performance](#) (TT)
- [Collecting Mid-Semester Student Feedback](#) (QN)
- [Notecard Mid-Semester Feedback](#) (TT)
- [Snapshot: End-of-Class Feedback and Assessment](#) (TT)
- [Increasing Online Survey Response Rates](#) (QN)

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