

Soliciting Feedback on Your Use of Inclusive Practices

Student feedback can be particularly useful to faculty as they continually work to learn and improve their inclusive teaching practices.

Use an Online Survey to Secure Student Feedback

The goal of asking for student feedback is to gauge student perceptions of the impact of your use of inclusive practices, such as using inclusive language, establishing norms for respectful dialogue, and ensuring your course reflects a diverse society. Online surveys are an effective way to collect this information anonymously. Seeking feedback early in your course can allow you to make adjustments for your current group of students. Depending on the length of your course, you may want to consider continuing to ask for feedback throughout the course.

Setting up an anonymous survey that students can use to provide you with feedback at other times can also be beneficial. For example, a student may be impacted by a student comment in a small group breakout session during a synchronous discussion or something may be written in an asynchronous discussion forum that gets by you. Providing an opportunity for students to share their experiences sends the message that you are there to support them.

Some important guidelines to keep in mind when seeking feedback from your students:

1. Allow students to give feedback anonymously to make it more likely they will be honest and open.
2. Explain why you are requesting student feedback and stress the importance of their honest and anonymous responses.
3. Once the survey is complete, report back to the students what you learned and what your next steps will be.

Sample Questions

Consider adapting these questions or creating your own.

- Do you feel welcome in this class?
 - Very welcomed
 - Welcomed
 - Somewhat welcomed
 - Unwelcomed
 - Very unwelcomed
- Do you feel comfortable reaching out to me with concerns, questions, or suggestions?
 - Very comfortable
 - Comfortable
 - Somewhat comfortable
 - Uncomfortable
 - Very uncomfortable
- Have you made friends with others in the class?
 - Yes, many
 - Yes, a few
 - There are one or two classmates I know I can reach out to if I have a question
 - I have reached out but no one has responded
 - I prefer to work alone
- Do you feel your contributions in class discussions are valued?
 - Very valued
 - Valued
 - Somewhat valued
 - Unvalued
 - Very unvalued

- Do you feel comfortable sharing your opinion or viewpoint in a class discussion?
 - Very comfortable
 - Comfortable
 - Somewhat comfortable
 - Uncomfortable
 - Very uncomfortable
- Do you feel you been graded fairly?
 - Yes, always
 - Yes, most of the time
 - There are a few times I have questions about the grading in this class
 - I am not sure
- Do the class resources and materials represent a diverse society?
 - Yes, class resources are very diverse
 - Yes, most of the class resources are diverse
 - There could be more diversity represented in the course
 - I am disappointed in the lack of diversity represented in this course.
- Please share if you have experienced or witnessed any behavior, including anything I might have done, that has caused you or a peer to feel disrespected or hurt in any way.
 - Open-ended