

Provide Personalized Feedback in Group Discussions

When replying to individual students in discussion forums, use information about their personal and career interests to personalize feedback. For example,

Jonathan, I recall you have an interest in the global logistics industry. How do you think that industry might be impacted by the issues that were identified in this week's discussion about climate change patterns?

Lindsay, since you have traveled in South America, I'm wondering if you could expand upon your comment about how language and culture influence our perceptions and behaviors.

To gather and organize information about students' personal and professional interests, create a survey using Word, Google Forms, SurveyMonkey, or Qualtrics. Using online survey software will allow you to download information into a spreadsheet, which may make it easier to organize the information. You can also create a Word document with each student's name as the file name for easy reference.

Student Interest Survey

Please complete this questionnaire to help me get to know you and, when possible, adjust my instruction to meet your personal and professional interests.

1. Contact information (your name as it appears on the course roster, phone number, and preferred email)
2. What name do you prefer I call you (if different from above)?
3. What are your personal and career goals for your college education? In other words, what are you hoping to get from the time, money, and energy you are putting into your education?
4. Please review the course learning outcomes and topics and list those that are most relevant to your personal and/or career goals. Please include how they are connected.
5. Are there any topics that do not seem relevant or of interest to you?
6. If you are currently employed, tell me about your job.
7. Are you involved in any extracurricular activities, and/or do you have any hobbies?
8. What do you do for fun?
9. What are your preferred modes of communication with your instructors (e.g., phone, email, FaceTime, text, or other)?
10. How would your best friend describe you?