Evaluation of Faculty

**Purpose:**

The student evaluation of faculty allows you to share how your faculty contributed to or detracted from your learning. This ensures the faculty know how they’re doing. Students are often uneasy about evaluating their faculty, especially if they have something critical to say. But as a student you always have *something* to say about your faculty, even if it is simply that they’re doing a great job.

**Typical Points to Mention:**

Because the bottom line is whether the faculty are enhancing students’ learning or hindering it, your faculty evaluation should discuss how their teaching directly impacted you—especially during your time in class. Your evaluation should discuss your faculty’s ability to:

* Come up with a coherent, appropriate reading list that is challenging without being unreasonably difficult
* Lecture informatively, guiding your learning and complementing the texts
* Lead a constructive seminar discussion that encourages all to participate equally
* Make assignments and expectations clear and reasonable
* Evaluate your work fairly and substantially
* Receive constructive criticism
* Work with other faculty (if they were part of a teaching team)
* Teach their discipline knowledgeably

The faculty’s ability to teach is not the only thing to be evaluated. You should also evaluate their ability to meet their commitments in these areas:

* The academic planning of the program
* The academic advising of students
* Adherence to the program covenants and syllabi

**Special Cases:**

You should mention if the faculty was remarkable in some way, either good or bad:

* Did they show a great deal of interest and enthusiasm for a subject?
* Did they go the extra mile to provide support for students?
* Did they organize exceptional events, like field trips or hosting guest speakers?

You should also mention:

* If the faculty somehow made you feel incapable, burdensome, or otherwise negative
* If the faculty played favorites among the students
* If the faculty let their personal lives interfere with the class

**Structuring Your Faculty Evaluation:**

You’ll want to organize your faculty evaluation around how it will best help them and those who evaluate them. This means organizing your criticism constructively by 1) describing any particular issue concisely and clearly, then 2) suggesting ways they could improve. Even if you simply want to say that the faculty does something really well, describe that and tell them to keep it up, so that they don’t change it.

**Submitting Your Faculty Evaluations:**

Just like with your Self-Evaluations, your faculty evaluation gets submitted online. Once you hit submit on my.evergreen, you’ll be able to choose to show your evaluation to your faculty immediately or only after your credit is posted. Your faculty may ask you to bring your evaluation of them to your evaluation conference, however, if you don’t feel comfortable doing this for any reason, you have the right to only show your evaluation to them after your credit is posted.

**For More Information**:

Take advantage of the Writing Center by looking over your evaluation of faculty with a tutor. Many of the same strategies for evaluations of faculty are used for Self-Evaluations, so you might also see our handout on Self-Evals.