



# Faculty Center

*Teaching. Learning. Leading.*

## Peer Observation of Teaching Guidelines

### Context or Background Information:

Describe the setting in which the lesson took place, relevant information about the makeup of the class, and any other descriptive characteristics that would provide appropriate context to the observation.

**Description:**

### Observation Area 1: Instructor Goals/Intentions for Class Session

Focus your comments on whether the goals were: 1) clearly stated or portrayed in an obvious fashion, 2) appropriate to the focus of the course, 3) explicitly connected to the flow of previous or future classes.

**Comments:**

### Observation Area 2: Student engagement with the subject matter

Examine the degree to which student engagement occurred 1) over a substantial portion of the class meeting time, 2) by a broad segment of students attending the class, 3) in a variety of forms that balance more passive activities such as listening/processing, reading, or reflecting, with more active learning, such as small group/whole class discussion, hands-on practice or experimentation, writing, or performing.

**Comments:**



**Observation Area 3: Examination of student achievement of goals**

Focus your comments on how the instructor developed an understanding of student achievement of goals by methods such as 1) questioning students on course material, 2) observing student performance(s), 3) student-student discussion, 4) informal assessment techniques, 5) low-stakes quizzes, or 6) other methods.

**Comments:**

**Observation Area 4 (for disciplinary peers only):** Significance of the class activities, topics, or issues

Focus your comments on whether the tasks performed by students or the topics being discussed 1) are relevant to the focus of the course, 2) require an appropriate investment of student time or effort.

**Comments:**

**Observation Area 5: Self-reflection by observer**

Focus your comments on aspects of your peer's teaching that have allowed you to productively reconsider aspects of your own classroom delivery and/or course design.

**Comments:**



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Summary of strengths, weaknesses, and suggestions for improvement:

(Suggestions may include recommended reading, development opportunities, observing peers' classes, etc.)

Peer observer

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature & Date: \_\_\_\_\_