

Suggestions for utilizing the Student Self-Description of Learning:

Learning is enhanced by improved effectiveness on the parts of both the teacher and the students. In addition to asking your students for feedback on your teaching during the semester, it is also beneficial for them to assess the effectiveness of their learning.

This purpose of this brief questionnaire is two-fold:

- 1) To raise student awareness of behaviors and attitudes that contribute to success in the course.
- 2) To help students consider how to modify their learning strategies.
- 3) To provide you with information regarding students' learning so that, in your teaching, you may suggest and include examples of strategies that would improve their learning.

Utilize the Student Self-Description of Learning in the following way:

1. Keep it anonymous.
2. Give students a few minutes at the beginning of class to complete the form. Ask them to return page one to you and to keep page two for themselves.
3. Look through the forms (or if you have a small class, tally them). Determine the average of each number.
4. Use this information to help you take steps to make changes in your teaching, the design of instructional materials, or to make suggestions to students on changing their strategies.

Student Self-Description of Learning

Instructor: _____ Course No.: _____ Date: _____

I. The following items reflect some of the ways that students describe how they learn. Please circle the number which indicates the degree to which you feel each item is descriptive of your learning in this course. In some cases, the statement may not apply. In these cases, check Doesn't apply or don't know.

<u>As a learner in this course, I:</u>	<u>Not at all Descriptive</u>	<u>Very Descriptive</u>	<u>Doesn't apply or don't know</u>			
1. Attend class regularly (have missed no more than two classes).....	1	2	3	4	5	()
2. Study at least six hours per week outside of class.....	1	2	3	4	5	()
3. Attend all discussion sections.....	1	2	3	4	5	()
4. Ask questions in class.....	1	2	3	4	5	()
5. Participate actively in class discussions.....	1	2	3	4	5	()
6. Take effective lecture notes.....	1	2	3	4	5	()
7. Review lecture notes regularly.....	1	2	3	4	5	()
8. Read related material to prepare for lectures.....	1	2	3	4	5	()
9. Complete readings when they are assigned.....	1	2	3	4	5	()
10. Read with good concentration and comprehension.....	1	2	3	4	5	()
11. Attempt to connect concepts to my own life or to other courses.....	1	2	3	4	5	()
12. Study with one or more classmates outside of class....	1	2	3	4	5	()
13. Generate and utilize flash cards, charts, diagrams and other study aids to learn course material.....	1	2	3	4	5	()
14. Complete homework and other assignments on time.....	1	2	3	4	5	()
15. Analyze errors in homework.....	1	2	3	4	5	()
16. Look for connections and relationships between text, lecture and homework.	1	2	3	4	5	()
17. Try to come up with my own examples of concepts...	1	2	3	4	5	()
18. Begin preparing for exams at least two days in advance.	1	2	3	4	5	()
19. Generate and practice with my own study questions....	1	2	3	4	5	()
20. Utilize effective test-taking strategies.....	1	2	3	4	5	()
21. Analyze test performance and adapt study strategies....	1	2	3	4	5	()
22. Use the course website or other learning resources to complement my learning.....	1	2	3	4	5	()
23. Have an interest in and concern for the quality of my learning.....	1	2	3	4	5	()
24. Take steps to manage anxiety about learning.....	1	2	3	4	5	()
25. Feel positive towards the course and instructor/s.....	1	2	3	4	5	()
26. Go to professor's or TA's office hours for help.....	1	2	3	4	5	()
27. Feel confident about my learning in this course.....	1	2	3	4	5	()

II. Use the remainder of this page as a checklist to indicate specific changes that you can make in your study approaches that would improve your learning in this course.

Which of the following strategies will most help to improve my learning in this class? (Choose at least three.)

1. Study four or more times each week.
2. Study with classmates.
3. Read a little bit every day.
4. Overview the material in the book before I read.
5. Summarize important concepts from the reading in margins or notes.
6. Review and organize my lecture notes after class each day.
7. Integrate material from lecture and textbooks.
8. Anticipate possible test questions.
9. Visit the TA or professor during office hours.
10. Start studying for tests earlier.
11. Utilize additional resources for studying.
12. Try to generate more of my own examples.
13. Determine my own goals for learning the course material.
14. Think about the day's topic before attending lecture.
15. Spend more time studying.
16. Analyze my errors on homework or tests.
17. Plan and prepare to participate in discussions.
18. Generate and utilize flash cards, charts, diagrams or additional study aids to learn the course material.
19. Test myself regularly over terms, definitions and new concepts.
20. Attend class every day.

If you feel that you need assistance or support to implement these changes, speak to your professor or TA or contact the UT Learning Center in Jester A332, 471-3714, <http://www.utexas.edu/student/lsc>.