AGENDA

1) Welcome and Introductions

2) Message Received: What does Your Feedback ‘Say’ to Your Students

3) Upcoming Events Sponsored by the Center for Teaching and Learning
Message Received: What does Your Feedback ‘Say’ to Your Students?

Center for Teaching and Learning Workshop
September 21st 2015
Has this happened to you?

Have you heard this before?
Feedback should encourage students to further “invest” in their own work and in us!
Think about all the ways you provide feedback!
Feedback Methods

• INFORMAL – pre-emptive
  – emails responding to student questions and concerns
  – one-on-one discussions – ‘pre-reads’
  – group discussions and help sessions
Feedback Methods

- FORMAL – post-submittal
  - Written individualized comments, corrections, and suggestions
  - Form-like evaluations and rubrics
  - Summative-style evaluation
Informal Feedback Methods
Pros and Cons

– Emphasis is more on the ‘work’ vs the grade
– Can be time-intensive
– Individual attention validates our high expectations and goals for improvement
– Group settings often enable students that are under-confident
Informal Feedback

Effective Strategies

– Address specific questions via email
  • Discourage ‘generic’ questions
  • Emphasize realistic expectations regarding response times

– Set limits on one-on-one evaluations
  • Students should be writing as you read and comment
  • Avoid the tendency to over-evaluate

– Group settings and help sessions
  • Respond to specific questions
  • Be aware of group dynamics
Formal Feedback Methods

Pros and Cons

– Writing comments can be time-intensive
  • Easy to over-analyze and hyper-edit
  • However, provides highly individualized feedback

– Form-style evaluations and rubrics are easy for the students to understand
  • Emphasis on key features of the assignment
  • Easy to justify assigned grade
  • Can lack specificity

– Summative-style evaluation helpful in connecting key points
Formal Feedback
Effective Strategies

– Written comments can’t / shouldn’t address everything! Think first $\rightarrow$ then write!
  • Electronic – faster to write, easier to read, and easier to edit!

– Supplement rubrics and evaluation ‘forms’ with individualized commentary

– Summative-style evaluation best with short papers and ‘revise & resubmit’ assignments
Message received?

Take advantage of various methods to provide student feedback
AND
There really is no substitute for individualized feedback
AND
Timely feedback is essential!
Individualized Written Feedback
Some Helpful Guidelines

- Level of feedback provided needs to be appropriate
- Feedback needs to be specific
- Provide a blend of positive comments along with constructive criticism
- Develop scoring rubrics
Timely Individualized Feedback
Some Helpful Strategies

• Start with a well-constructed assignment
• Provide exemplars
  – Provide student papers – meaningful examples!
  – Use student responses to generate answer keys
• Expedite commentary by....
  – Using acronyms and abbreviations
  – Remembering that MORE ≠ BETTER
• Selective intensive evaluation
Participation Time!

TWINKIES: THE NEW SUPERFOOD
Twinkies Article Critique

• Please read the *World Weekly News* article and the associated writing assignment

• Each group should select a student paper to evaluate – everyone should write their own commentary on the student work

• Compare and discuss the evaluations written by the members of the group

• Let’s share the ‘highlights’ collectively
Thank You for Your Participation!
Kodiak, strategically.
Steve Narmontas, Director of Education Technology Center and Media Services

Whether and how to use Kodiak and other instructional technologies is largely up to the individual instructor. As a result, our students’ experiences with technologies like Kodiak varies widely, even between sections of the same course. This session starts with an overview of how Kodiak was recently used in 160 100-level course sections. Then two faculty members will describe strategic uses of Kodiak across all sections of a course, and across all courses in a program. Does some degree of consistency matter when it comes to educational technologies like Kodiak?
Thank You

Have a Sparkling Evening