

Methods Based Peer Visit Form

Adapted from CFE+Office of Instructional Innovation for the Geological Sciences Department

Date: _____ Course/Section: _____ Class length: _____

Instructor: _____ Peer Observer: _____

Subject matter of lesson: _____

Directions: For each section below, rank how often the instructor uses the technique or approach described. Use the “notes” section to provide specific examples of documented behaviors where applicable, and use the comments section to summarize what you observed in a holistic manner.

Pedagogical Approach. How does the instructor’s approach to teaching support meaningful student learning?	Observed...					Notes:
	Often	Sometimes	Occasionally	Not observed	N/A	
1. Instructor communicates well (speaks clearly & audibly; writes clearly & legibly)						
2. Instructor shows enthusiasm for subject matter and teaching						
3. Instructor encourages student questions and student participation						
4. Instructor gives students an adequate amount of time to respond to questions						
5. Instructor presents material in multiple ways (e.g., lecture, activities, media, appropriate technological tools, etc)						

Approach to subject matter content. How does the instructor engage students with the material to be learned?	Observed...					Notes:
	Often	Sometimes	Occasionally	Not observed	N/A	
6. Instructor explains the learning objectives for the class section						
7. Instructor uses questions or activities to identify misconceptions						
8. Instructor shows how new concepts build on earlier concepts in the course or reflect larger themes in the discipline						
9. Instructor uses familiar examples to illustrate or explain concepts						
10. Instructor shows how concepts apply to “real world” situations						
11. Instructor ensures that major points are summarized at the end of the lesson						

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Instructional techniques. Does the lesson use a balance of techniques to foster student learning?	Observed...					Notes:
	Most of class	Sometimes	Occasionally	Not observed	N/A	
12. Lecture and/or teacher demonstrations						
13. Discussion (whole-class or small groups/pairs)						
14. Working on practice problems or class activities						
15. Formative assessments (e.g., clickers)						

Engagement and monitoring student learning. Are students actively and intellectually engaged? How does the instructor know that students are learning?	Observed...					Notes:
	Often	Sometimes	Occasionally	Not observed	N/A	
16. Instructor poses questions that make students think (why?), not just recall (what?)						
17. Students have opportunities to reflect on their learning						
18. Instructor takes action to involve students that are not engaged						
19. Instructor probes for student understanding even if don't ask questions						
20. Students receive immediate or timely constructive feedback						

Learning Community. Are the instructor and students engaged in a positive, productive learning community?	Observed...					Notes:
	Often	Sometimes	Occasionally	Not observed	N/A	
21. Instructor respects and encourages student contributions.						
22. Students are at ease asking questions and interacting with the instructor						
23. Instructor moves throughout classroom interacting with individuals & groups						
24. When in groups, students work collaboratively to accomplish tasks						
25. Instructor asks students to explain ideas to each other						

Comments: