

TEACHING TIPS OF THE MONTH FROM THE MC COMMUNITY

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Theme: Classroom Assessment Techniques

Tip 1: One Minute Paper

Description: With two to three minutes left in class, have students respond to the following questions:



1. What was helpful or useful in today's class?
2. What was confusing or difficult to understand in today's class?
3. What would you suggest adding, removing and/or modifying to improve today's class ?

If you think it will encourage students to write more ideas, you can have them submit their sheets anonymously. After class, review responses and note any useful comments. During the next class periods emphasize the issues illuminated by your students' comments. You can download a [sample one-minute paper](#).

Variations: You can ask students to...

- answer one or two of the three questions above.
- answer more focused questions about the topic at hand (Why, Where, When, How something happened or should be done), but the time for answering should be kept short.
- identify several of the most important or unclear points in homework assignments or out-of-class readings.

- answer the questions about each other's drafts for writing assignments.

Tip 2: Student-Generated Test Questions

Description: Allow students to write test questions and model answers for specified topics in a format consistent with course exams. This will give students the opportunity to evaluate the course topics, reflect on what they understand, and consider what are good test items.



Make a rough tally of the questions your students propose and the topics that they cover. Evaluate the questions and use the good ones as prompts for discussion. You may also want to revise the questions and use them on the upcoming exam.

Variation: Create a couple of exam questions and solutions for provided topics, post questions and solutions to a discussion board and ask other students to review and provide their feedback .

For questions about these tips, contact Alla Webb, alla.webb@montgomerycollege.edu.

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