

Focus on the “How,” Not the “What”: Using Research to Inform Teaching

Student Survey Questions and Constructs

Learning Climate Questionnaire (Williams & Deci, 1996)

Question Text: About the Learning Experience The questions below are related to your learning experience in *Course Number: Course Name* thus far. The learning experience in different courses can vary and we would like to know more about how you generally feel about the overall learning experience in *Course Number: Course Name*.

1. I feel that my instructor provides me choices and options.
2. I feel understood by my instructor.
3. My instructor conveyed confidence in my ability to do well in the course.
4. My instructor encouraged me to ask questions.
5. My instructor listens to how I would like to do things.
6. My instructor tries to understand how I see things before suggesting a new way to do things.

Basic Psychological Needs Scale (Levesque-Bristol, Knapp, & Fisher, 2010)

Question Text: Your Overall Experience. The following questions concern your feelings about your experience in *Course Number: Course Name*. Please indicate how true each of the following statement is for you given your specific experiences with *Course Number: Course Name* thus far.

Autonomy

1. I feel like I can make a lot of inputs in deciding how my coursework gets done.
2. I feel pressured in this course. (R)
3. I am free to express my ideas and opinions in this course.
4. When I am in this course, I have to do what I am told. (R)
5. My feelings are taken into consideration in this course.
6. I feel like I can pretty much be myself in this course.
7. There is not much opportunity for me to decide for myself how to go about my coursework. (R)

Competence

1. I do not feel very competent in this course. (R)
2. People in this course tell me I am good at what I do.
3. I have been able to learn interesting new skills in this course.
4. Most days I feel a sense of accomplishment from this course.
5. In this course I do not get much of a chance to show how capable I am. (R)
6. I often do not feel very capable in this course. (R)

Relatedness

1. I really like the people in this course.
2. I get along with people in this course.
3. I pretty much keep to myself when in this course. (R)
4. I consider the people in this course to be my friends.
5. People in this course care about me.
6. There are not many people in this course that I am close to. (R)
7. The people in this course do not seem to like me much. (R)
8. People in this course are pretty friendly towards me.

Situational Motivation Scale (Guay, Vallerand, & Blanchard, 2000)

Question Text: Motivation for taking *Course Number: Course Name*. The questions below are related to your feelings of why you are taking *Course Number: Course Name*. Students have different motivations for taking different courses, and we are interested in your motivations for taking *Course Number: Course Name* thus far.

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Intrinsic Motivation

1. Because I really enjoy it.
2. Because I really like it.
3. Because it’s really fun.

Integration

1. Because learning all I can about academic work is really essential for me.
2. Because acquiring all kinds of knowledge is fundamental for me.
3. Because experiencing new things is a part of who I am.

Identification

1. Because it allows me to develop skills that are important to me.
2. Because it’s a sensible way to get a meaningful experience.
3. Because it’s a practical way to acquire new knowledge.

Introjection

1. Because I would feel bad if I didn’t.
2. Because I would feel guilty if I didn’t.
3. Because I would feel awful about myself if I didn’t.

Extrinsic Motivation

1. Because I feel I have to.
2. Because that’s what I’m supposed to do.
3. Because that’s what I was told to do.

Amotivation

1. I don’t know. I have the impression I’m wasting my time.
2. I don’t know. I wonder if I should continue.
3. I’m not sure anymore. I think that maybe I should quit (drop the class).

Perceived Knowledge Transfer Scale

Question Text: Relevance of the Learning Experience. Please consider the following questions as they relate to *Course Number: Course Name* and record the extent to which you agree using the choices provided.

1. I feel confident in my ability to apply the course material in other classes that I have.
2. I feel confident in my ability to apply the course material in my professional life.
3. I feel as if the material covered in this course is relevant to my future career.
4. Given the future career that I have chosen, it is important for me to learn the information covered in this class.
5. I understand how I will use the information learned in this class in my professional life.
6. Information learned in this course will inform my future learning experiences.
7. I believe that it is important for me to learn the information included in this course.
8. The information learned in this course will help me become a more well-rounded individual.

References

- Guay, F., Vallerand, R. J., & Blanchard, C. (2000). On the assessment of situational intrinsic and extrinsic motivation: The Situational Motivation Scale (SIMS). *Motivation and Emotion, 24*(3), 175-213.
- Levesque-Bristol, C., Knapp, T. D., & Fisher, B. J. (2010). The effectiveness of service-learning: It's not always what you think. *The Journal of Experiential Education, 33*(3), 208.
- Williams, G. C., & Deci, E. L. (1996). Internalization of biopsychosocial values by medical students: a test of self-determination theory. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, 70*(4), 767.