

# MEMORANDUM

Date: 14 October 2021  
From: Stavros Valenti & Kevin Nolan, co-chairs  
Blue Ribbon Committee on the CTRs and Peer Observations  
To: The Hofstra University Faculty  
RE: Draft of the modified CTR items

The Blue Ribbon Committee on the CTRs and Peer observations was empaneled in December 2020 by the Provost and the President of the AAUP to review the CTR policy and items. The committee surveyed chairs, faculty, and students in Spring 2021 to uncover the dimensions of teaching and learning that ought to be represented in an instrument for students' assessments of their courses. Based on these surveys, the following draft items were generated to reflect a broad array of teaching dimensions—assignments, instruction quality, course climate, and amount learned—that were judged to be helpful for a faculty member's professional development as an effective instructor.

We believe the data from the draft CTR will be most useful for faculty development if data from the first 12 items are reported separately, rather than grouping items into subscales (i.e., overall, workload, grading, and interaction) as is our current practice. We designed the current CTR to broadly survey important teaching factors – nuanced information that would be lost if these items were averaged.

Nonetheless, the final two items—overall instructor rating and overall course rating—may be averaged to create a single overall rating that will be useful for both faculty summative feedback and for personnel matters.

**We invite all instructors to review these draft CTR items.** If you would like to comment on any aspects the modified CTR set, please leave your comments on a brief Qualtrics Survey (link [here](#)). The survey will close on November 1, 2021.

## DRAFT CTR ITEMS

### *Response Scale*

1	2	3	4	5
Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree

### **Assignments & Assessment**

1. Assignments (e.g., readings, projects, assigned problems) positively contributed to the learning experience in this course.
2. Graded assignments and assessments (e.g., quizzes, exams) fairly reflected the material taught in the course.
3. The instructor gave me constructive feedback on assignments and assessments.

### **Instruction**

4. The instructor clearly communicated course goals and requirements.
5. The instructor's presentation of course material was clear and effective.

6. The instructor conducted class in an organized manner.

**Course Climate**

7. The instructor created a welcoming and inclusive learning environment.

8. The instructor treated all students fairly.

9. The instructor promoted and respected diverse views in the classroom.

**Learning**

10. Through this course, my knowledge of the subject increased considerably.

11. This course helped me develop intellectual and/or critical thinking skills.

12. This course advanced my academic and/or professional development.

**Overall Evaluations**

13. Overall, this instructor is an effective educator.

14. Overall, this course was a worthwhile experience.

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