



# Examples of Custom Questions for Course Evaluations

## EXAMPLES OF RATING SCALES

[Likert-Type Scale Response Anchors](#)

[Likert Scales](#)

## QUESTION CATEGORIES

Questions is **bold** are already included on the standard course evaluation used in all MU courses.

### Instructor Responsiveness and Method

1. **The instructor was responsive when students had questions or needed assistance.**
2. **The instructor explained course content in a way I could understand.**
3. **The instructor used teaching methods that helped me learn.**
4. The instructor clearly presented the skills to be learned.
5. The instructor explained concepts clearly.
6. The instructor found ways to help students answer their own questions.
7. The instructor was well prepared for class.
8. The instructor provided guidance for understanding course exercises.
9. The instructor increased my understanding of course material.
10. The instructor helped me define the goals and scope of the project.
11. The instructor helped me identify resources I needed to carry out the project.
12. The instructor was helpful when I had difficulty performing activities.
13. The instructor was helpful to me individually (in conferences, email exchanges, etc.).
14. The instructor engaged the class in productive discussions.
15. The instructor provided opportunities for class participation.
16. The instructor encouraged student questions.
17. The instructor encouraged participation.
18. The instructor used class time effectively.
19. The instructor communicated clearly.
20. The instructor effectively explained course concepts.
21. The instructor encouraged student participation in class.
22. I feel comfortable speaking in this class.
23. The instructor presented course material in a clear manner that facilitated understanding.
24. The instructor effectively organized well-run learning activities.
25. The instructor's teaching methods were effective.
26. The instructor's teaching methods aided my learning.
27. The instructor stimulated my interest in the subject matter.
28. The instructor returned assignments and exams in a timely manner.
29. The online course platform was updated and accurate.
30. I was able to access the instructor outside of scheduled class time for additional help.
31. The instructor was available to students.
32. I could get help if I needed it.

33. The instructor was readily available during the class.
34. The instructor was helpful when I had difficulties or questions.
35. **I received grades and feedback on assignments/tests in a timely manner (as communicated by the instructor).**
36. I received useful feedback from the instructor.
37. The instructor provided meaningful feedback on my work.
38. The instructor gave me constructive feedback on assignments.
39. The instructor's feedback to me improved my understanding of the material.
40. The instructor provided feedback in a timely manner.
41. Assignments and/or exams were returned promptly.
42. **The grading policies in this course were clear.**
43. **The grading policies in this course were consistently followed.**
44. Student learning was fairly assessed (e.g., through quizzes, exams, projects, and other graded work).
45. The instructor clearly articulated the standards of performance for the course.
46. The course environment felt like a welcoming place to express my ideas.
47. The instructor treated students with respect.

### Open-Ended Questions

1. How successful was the instructor in creating an environment that was conducive to learning?

## Course-Specific Questions

### Course Content

1. **During class, how often did you engage in learning activities such as: For in-person courses: case studies, discussion groups, projects, problem solving, group work, etc.? For online courses: discussion boards, wikis, chat, blogs, projects, group work, etc.?**
2. The learning outcomes were clearly stated in the syllabus.
3. Expectations for student learning were clearly defined.
4. I believe that what I am being asked to learn in this course is important.
5. The course presented skills in a helpful sequence.
6. The course provided an appropriate balance between instruction and practice.
7. The course was organized in a way that helped me learn.
8. The course was well organized.
9. The course followed the syllabus.
10. The course provided a mixture of explanation and practice.
11. The course was effectively organized.
12. The course assignments and lectures usefully complemented each other.
13. The course instructions (including, manuals, handouts, etc.) were clear.
14. The course work helped me understand concepts more clearly.
15. The lectures, readings, and assignments complemented each other.
16. The instructional materials (i.e., books, readings, handouts, study guides, lab manuals, multimedia, software) increased my knowledge and skills in the subject matter.
17. The course assignments (readings, assigned problems, laboratory experiments, videos, etc.) facilitated my learning.
18. The text and assigned readings were valuable.
19. The course workload and requirements were appropriate for the course level.
20. The course was organized in a manner that helped me understand underlying concepts.

21. The assigned readings helped me understand the course material.
22. Graded assignments helped me understand the course material.
23. Exams and assignments were reflective of the course content.
24. Content of tests and assignments was consistent with content of lectures and/or reading.
25. The readings were appropriate to the goals of the course.
26. The written assignments contributed to my knowledge of the course material and understanding of the subject.
27. The examinations/projects measured my knowledge of the course material.

### Student Learning and Workload

1. **I was motivated to take responsibility for my own learning in this course.**
2. **I was challenged to think deeply about the subject matter.**
3. **I was encouraged to ask my own questions and seek answers.**
4. The course developed my ability to interact with diverse groups of people.
5. The course provided guidance on how to become a competent professional.
6. The course developed my ability to read and think critically.
7. The course helped me improve my writing.
8. The course developed my communication/presentation skills.
9. The course developed my ability to apply theory to practice.
10. The course provided the opportunity to practice the skills required in the course.
11. The course improved my problem-solving skills.
12. The course developed my ability to think critically about the subject.
13. This class has increased my interest in this field of study.
14. This course gave me confidence to do more advanced work in the subject.

*Text in “{}” should be changed to match the specific course learning outcomes (SLO).*

15. This course helped me {SLO}.
16. This course improved my {SLO}.
17. To what extent has this course contributed to your ability to {SLO}?
18. To what extent has this course contributed to your ability to {program-level learning outcomes}?
19. Please rate your performance or understanding of the following course learning outcomes, according to the scale provided: {SLO1} Before entering this course, After taking this course; {SLO2} Before entering this course, After taking this course, etc.

### Specific Types of Courses

#### **Labs:**

1. How would you rate the overall quality of the laboratory facility? (excellent, good, adequate, not very good, poor)
2. What specific suggestions do you have to improve this laboratory course?
3. The instructor provides helpful information about important lab skills and procedures.
4. I understand the relationship between lab activities and the material presented in the class lectures.
5. The problems I worked on in this class helped me in learning the content ideas in this class.
6. I learn how to solve problems more easily when I work with a group of students.
7. The lab complemented my understanding of the lectures.
8. The lab instructor emphasizes safety during lab sessions.
9. The lab instructor provides assistance when I need it during lab sessions.
10. I have adequate time to complete my lab assignments.

11. The lab is adequately equipped for lab sessions.

### **Online Courses:**

- 1. Is this your first time taking an online course?**
- 2. How likely would you be to take another online course?**
- 3. How would you rate the sense of community in this course?**
- 4. The technology in this course effectively supported my learning.**

### **Service Learning**

- To what extent has this course contributed to your ability to:
  - Connect and extend knowledge from academic study to service learning and vice versa.
  - Critically reflect on my own values and ideals in light of my service learning experience.
  - Critically reflect on my efficacy in bringing about desirable social change and on my commitment to such change.
  - Work with people of diverse backgrounds and to learn from this experience through effective communication, listening, and adaptation.
- To what extent do you agree with the following statements?
  - I was able to apply what I learned in class to this service project.
  - This service project helped me better understand some of the material I learned in class.
  - This experience helped me develop skills and/or knowledge that will make me more effective at serving my community in the future.
  - This experience caused me to reflect on my own values and ideals.
  - This experience strengthened my commitment to serve others.
  - I believe I can make a positive difference in the world.
  - I have a personal commitment to make a positive difference in the world.
  - This experience helped strengthen my confidence in my ability to work effectively with people from backgrounds and experiences that are different from my own.
  - I would like to take other courses that involve service-learning experiences.
  - I would recommend service-learning courses to other students.

### **Student Self-Evaluation Questions**

1. How many class sessions did you attend?
2. On average, how many hours per week have you spent on this course, including attending classes, doing readings, reviewing notes, writing papers, and any other course-related work?
3. How satisfied were you with your effort in this course?
4. I attend class regularly.
5. I consistently prepared for class.
6. I have put a great deal of effort into advancing my learning in this course.
7. In this course, I have been challenged to learn more than I expected.
8. I was well-prepared for class/discussion sections.
9. This course was challenging.
10. This course made me think.
11. What grade do you expect to earn in this course? *Options for this question: A to A-, B to B-, C, Below C, Unsure*

## Overall Evaluation

1. **How would you rate this course as a learning experience?**
2. I would highly recommend this instructor to other students.
3. I would recommend this instructor to others.
4. Overall, this instructor met my expectations.
5. I would highly recommend this course to other students.
6. I would recommend this course to others.
7. Overall, this course met my expectations.
8. This course had high educational impact.
9. This course was useful in progress toward my degree.

## Open-Ended Questions

1. **What 2-3 things did you like most about this course and find most useful or valuable for learning?**
2. **What 2-3 suggestions do you have that would make this course a better learning experience?**
3. Please identify what you consider to be the strengths of the course.
4. Please identify area(s) where you think the course could be improved.
5. Which of the readings or assigned materials were most useful and least useful to your learning?
6. Why did you choose this class?
7. What advice would you give to another student who is considering taking this course (or section)?
8. What are one to three specific things about the course or instructor that especially helped to support student learning?
9. What parts of the course aided your learning the most?
10. What are one to three specific things about the course that could be improved to better support student learning?
11. What parts of the class were obstacles to your learning?
12. What changes might improve your learning?
13. Are you as interested in the course material as you were at the beginning of the semester? Why or why not?

## Sources:

[Berkeley Center for Teaching and Learning Course Evaluation Question Bank](#)

[Best Practices and Sample Questions for Course Evaluation Surveys \(University of Wisconsin at Madison\)](#)

## Additional Resources:

[Laboratory Sections Course Evaluations \(University of Arizona\)](#)

[Lab Evaluations \(Barnard College\)](#)

[Laboratory Course Form, Student Assessment of Instruction \(Western Carolina University\)](#)