Optional Item Banks for Course Feedback

BROWN

Item Banks in this PDF

Principles for Creating Custom Surveys

EvaluationKit enables instructors as well as administrators (chairs and department managers) to create custom surveys and attach them to the standard Brown Course Feedback Form.

Videos and articles on Creating Custom Surveys at EvaluationKit's Help Center.

- Access EvaluationKit through Canvas or login via SSO at https://brown.evaluationkit.com/
- Click the "?" in the top right of the window and select "Help Center."

Add as few items as possible to minimize survey fatigue

- Review the standard questions to avoid overlap (viewable in your EvaluationKit).
- Coordinate with others in your department or program to avoid duplication and maximize utility of custom questions.
- Identify the most important kind of feedback from students.
- You can only add a custom survey with ten items or fewer.

Design your survey with the user in mind

- Use the label item to help students understand the transition from standard items to your custom survey (See Example Text for a Transition Label Item below).
- If creating your own items, have a colleague review items for clarity.
- Write-in items (open-ended questions) should be kept to a minimum. Each one takes much more time to complete than a selection item. There are several in the main survey.

Make it simple for you

- Use the item banks to find useful items.
- If you need to create your own item, search for example questions in the item bank to adapt
- For your own multiple choice items (also known as single selection items), consider response sets used in the item bank (e.g., Strongly Agree to Strongly Disagree)
- Once you have a survey, reuse or copy and make small changes in subsequent terms.

Remember to attach your custom survey to the main survey

Example Text for a Transition Label Item

Some Additional Feedback Items

Beyond the standard questions on the Brown University Course Feedback Form, we would like to ask you to provide some additional information to help your instructor(s) and the [your academic program name here] program continue to improve the student learning experience.

Item Bank:
Student Motivation Items

Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree:
When this course began I believed I could master its content.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
○	○	○	○	○

Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree:
My background prepared me well for this courses requirements.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
○	○	○	○	○

Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree:
This class stimulated my interest in the subject.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
○	○	○	○	○

Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree:
The instructor conveyed confidence in my ability to do well in the course.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
○	○	○	○	○

Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree:
The instructor facilitated a learning environment that helped me feel accepted.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
○	○	○	○	○

Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree:
The instructor encouraged me to reflect on and evaluate what I have learned.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
○	○	○	○	○

Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree:
The expectations for this course were clearly outlined at the beginning of the course.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
○	○	○	○	○

Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree:
Learning activities included meaningful interactions between students in the course.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
○	○	○	○	○

Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree:
This class was open to a variety of different student experiences and perspectives.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
○	○	○	○	○

Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree:
The instructor encouraged students to help each other understand ideas or concepts.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
○	○	○	○	○

Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree:
The instructor used technology effectively to facilitate my learning.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
○	○	○	○	○

Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree:
The instructor helped students to interpret subject matter from diverse perspectives (e.g., different cultures, religions, genders, political views).

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
○	○	○	○	○

Open-ended Items

How did the instructor(s) facilitate discussions to encourage broad participation by students? What might have been done to encourage more students to participate in discussions?

How did you prepare for class discussion? What would help you feel more prepared?

Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree:
The course had learning objectives that were meaningful to me.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
○	○	○	○	○

Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree:
Activities and assignments were clearly related to important course learning objectives.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
○	○	○	○	○

Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree:
The readings in this course have helped me learn.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
○	○	○	○	○

Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree:
Discussions helped me understand the key ideas of this course.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
○	○	○	○	○

Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree:
Course content was inclusive of diverse perspectives.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
○	○	○	○	○

Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree:
Course projects, tests, or assignments required original or creative thinking.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
○	○	○	○	○

Open-ended Item

Which course assignments have helped you understand the course topic or stimulated you to be more interested in the course topic? Which assignments have been the least interesting?

Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree:
The instructor(s) clearly communicated the evaluation criteria for assignments.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
○	○	○	○	○

Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree:
I received clear feedback that supported my learning in this course

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
○	○	○	○	○

Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree:
I was able to use the instructor's feedback to improve my performance in the course.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
○	○	○	○	○

Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree:
The instructor had high standards for student learning in this course.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
○	○	○	○	○

Open-ended Item

How has instructor feedback been helpful to your learning? How could feedback be improved to enhance your learning?

The main survey includes the following question which was based on questions already asked by some Brown departments and reviewed by the 2017-2018 Course Feedback Committee.

Did the instructor foster an environment where all students - including yourself - were treated with respect and their questions and perspectives welcomed? How did the instructor accomplish this?

Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree:
The instructor facilitated a learning environment that helped me feel accepted.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Not Applicable
○	○	○	○	○	○

Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree:
I felt comfortable approaching the instructor with questions or comments.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Not Applicable
○	○	○	○	○	○

Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree:
Assignment instructions clearly explained the task and evaluation criteria.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
○	○	○	○	○

Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree:
The instructor helped students to interpret subject matter from diverse perspectives (e.g., different cultures, religions, genders, political views).

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Not Applicable
○	○	○	○	○	○

Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree:
The instructor engaged with the course materials (e.g., readings, slides, examples, or films) in ways that challenged stereotypical thinking about specific groups or identities.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Not Applicable
○	○	○	○	○	○

Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree:
This class was open to a variety of different student experiences and perspectives.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
○	○	○	○	○

Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree:
Course materials (e.g., readings, slides, examples, or films) were inclusive of diverse perspectives.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
○	○	○	○	○

Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree:
Course materials (e.g., readings, slides, examples, or films) represented the intellectual contributions of people from diverse backgrounds.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
○	○	○	○	○

Please discuss the ways in which this class was or was not physically and economically accessible to all students.

Please indicate the extent to which you agree with each of the following statements on a scale of "Strongly Agree" to "Strongly Disagree."

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Time spent in laboratory sessions supported my learning in this course.	O	O	O	O	O
Work in laboratory sessions prepared me to do well on the exams.	O	O	O	O	O
The experiments and/or demonstrations in this course helped me understand the central ideas and concepts in the course.	O	O	O	O	O
The laboratory lectures were helpful in understanding the purpose of the experiments, demonstration, or other activities.	O	O	O	O	O
I prepared sufficiently before laboratory sessions to successfully complete the experiments or other activities.	O	O	O	O	O

Open-ended Item

How did you effectively prepare for laboratory sessions in this course? What might have helped you be more prepared?

Please indicate the extent to which you agree with each of the following statements on a scale of "Strongly Agree" to "Strongly Disagree."

The instructor:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Provided clear instructions for each laboratory session.	O	O	O	O	O
Emphasized the importance of safety in the laboratory.	O	O	O	O	O
Helped me understand key steps in the experiment or demonstration during laboratory sessions.	O	O	O	O	O
Effectively answered my questions about laboratory procedures (e.g. equipment use, clean up, collection of data).	O	O	O	O	O

Please indicate the extent to which you agree with each of the following statements on a scale of "Strongly Agree" to "Strongly Disagree."

The Teaching Assistant:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Provided clear instructions for each laboratory session.	O	O	O	O	O
Emphasized the importance of safety in the laboratory.	O	O	O	O	O
Helped me understand key steps in the experiment or demonstration during laboratory sessions.	O	O	O	O	O
Effectively answered my questions about laboratory procedures (e.g. equipment use, clean up, collection of data).	O	O	O	O	O

Please indicate the extent to which you agree with each of the following statements on a scale of "Strongly Agree" to "Strongly Disagree."

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Time spent in problem-solving sessions supported my learning in this course.	○	○	○	○	○
Problem-solving sessions prepared me to do well on exams.	○	○	○	○	○
The sessions helped me learn problem-solving strategies to use beyond this course.	○	○	○	○	○
The kinds of problems covered were interesting and relevant.	○	○	○	○	○
The problems helped me understand the central ideas and concepts in the course.	○	○	○	○	○

Open-ended Items

How have in-class instruction and activities prepared you for solving problems on your own?

After this course, what do you see as your strengths when trying to solve complex problems?

Please indicate the extent to which you agree with each of the following statements on a scale of "Strongly Agree" to "Strongly Disagree."
This course helped me learn to:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Listen more closely to others	O	O	O	O	O
Communicate more effectively with others in the target language	O	O	O	O	O
Present ideas or work to a group more effectively	O	O	O	O	O
Work more effectively with others as part of a team	O	O	O	O	O
Translate concepts between cultures with more nuance	O	O	O	O	O

How helpful were the different materials and tools in this course for your learning of the language?
Select N/A for not applicable if you did not use the item in the course.

	Extremely helpful	Very helpful	Moderately helpful	Slightly helpful	Not at all helpful	N/A
The textbook	O	O	O	O	O	O
Readings (e.g., literature, scholarly articles)	O	O	O	O	O	O
Hard-copy materials (e.g., worksheets, handouts)	O	O	O	O	O	O
Online materials and tools	O	O	O	O	O	O
Multimedia components of the course (e.g., videos, audio)	O	O	O	O	O	O

Open-ended Items

In what ways did the course help you to build on skills such as being a more effective listener, communication successfully with others, presenting to a group, working collaboratively, and translating concepts between cultures?

In what ways did the course broaden your perspectives about Brown, the United States, and our global world?

Please indicate the extent to which you agree with each of the following statements on a scale of "Strongly Agree" to "Strongly Disagree". Select N/A if the statement is not applicable to your experience with Teaching Assistants in this course.

In general, the Teaching Assistants that I worked with in this course:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N/A
Made me feel comfortable asking questions.	O	O	O	O	O	O
Found ways to help me answer my own questions.	O	O	O	O	O	O
Explained concepts clearly.	O	O	O	O	O	O
Helped me develop important skills related to the course.	O	O	O	O	O	O
Helped me reflect on and refine my problem-solving abilities.	O	O	O	O	O	O
Helped me adapt my learning strategies for this course.	O	O	O	O	O	O
Offered information and advice that was well aligned with those of the instructor(s).	O	O	O	O	O	O
Fostered effective interactions among students.	O	O	O	O	O	O
Overall, provided useful support for my learning.	O	O	O	O	O	O

How many times did you meet outside of class time with a Teaching Assistant for this course in office hours and/or help sessions over the semester?

- O   0 times
- O   1-3 times
- O   4-7 times
- O   8-11 times
- O   12 or more times

In general, how difficult was it to get a timely meeting with a Teaching Assistant?

○ Not difficult at all

○ A little difficult

○ Very difficult

○ I did not try to make an appointment.

Which of the following was the most important factor that determined the TA office hours you selected?

○ Best fit in your schedule

○ Desire to work with a specific TA

○ Expected shorter wait time

○ Other

Comments:

Please describe the ways TAs supported your learning in this course? How else might TAs support student learning in this course?