

PEER ASSESSMENT

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COURSE:

INTRODUCTION TO THE ENGINEERING PROFESSION

(FACC 100)

SUMMARY

Using software that supports peer assessment, students submit their writing, review peers' work, receive feedback from peers, and use the feedback to revise their writing. In addition, students provide feedback on the feedback they received (known as "back evaluation").

GOALS

- Develop students' ability to analyze and assess written work according to specific criteria
- Encourage students to give constructive and pertinent feedback
- Teach students how to respond to and integrate feedback

"My students develop an ability to follow instructions and write their paper according to the evaluation criteria. These skills are important for their future, whether they practise as engineers or continue to graduate studies."

- Lawrence Chen

STEPS

- 1 Students receive detailed assignment instructions.
- 2 The instructor facilitates [a calibration exercise](#) so that students understand the peer assessment process.
- 3 Students write their papers and bring copies to class.
- 4 In class, students review 1 or 2 papers and assess them according to the [scoring rubric](#). They also respond to some feedback prompts. Students can use the feedback to revise their papers.
- 5 Students submit their paper to a peer assessment software program.
- 6 Online, students review 1 or 2 papers and assess them according to the [scoring rubric](#). They also respond to some feedback prompts.

ASSESSMENT

Task completion: 45%

(completing all the assignment tasks by the deadlines)

Quality of paper: 35%

(based on a weighted score from four reviewers)

Quality of feedback: 20%

(based on authors' back evaluation of peer reviews)

READY TO TRY IT OUT?

HERE'S SOME ADVICE ...

- Clearly explain why you are asking students to engage in peer assessment.
- Emphasize the importance of carefully considering feedback before responding to it, especially if students don't initially agree with the reviewer.
- After completing the assignment, ask students for feedback on their experience with peer assessment. Keep their comments in mind when planning your next implementation.

BENEFITS

- Students learn the value of peer assessment. Engaging thoughtfully in peer assessment helps students appreciate the time and effort it takes to do assessment.
- Students develop valuable professional skills, such as the ability to give and respond to feedback in a collegial way.

CHALLENGES

Students may express concern about part of their grade being determined by peers and the fairness of their peers' assessments. Clarifying that the assignment is worth a small percentage of the final course grade and that the instructor monitors all assessments, as well as connecting the experience to real-world professional situations, assuages these concerns.



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