

Providing Constructive Feedback

Providing constructive feedback is an essential part of the course, faculty, and TA evaluation process. Feedback provided in RSPH midterm and final course evaluations are used to modify, enhance, and/or inform faculty and TAs how best to improve their curriculum and instructional methodologies. Your thoughts and perspectives are truly valued and vital as Rollins continues to enrich the curriculum and educational experience of all students.

Quality constructive feedback has many components, but to provide the greatest impact there are some key elements to consider as you offer your suggestions:

1. **It's All in the Details** – Provide specific examples from your experiences. Don't just say, "there were too many slides and they were awful." A true constructive comment would say, "You might consider condensing the number of slides by putting any additional details in the notes section."
2. **Honesty IS the Best Policy, But Make Sure to be Polite** – Honest feedback is very important, but as the old adage says, "You catch more flies with honey, than with vinegar." This applies to evaluation comments too. Faculty and/or TAs will respond better to your thoughts if you make sure to keep things polite and avoid being mean or cruel.
3. **Be Thoughtful and Take 5** – It doesn't hurt to take a few extra minutes to reflect and consider your responses instead of speed racing through the evaluation (just to have it over and done with).
4. **What if the shoe was on the other foot?** – Before you click submit, think about the feedback you provided and how you would feel if you were the one receiving these comments.
5. **Bridge the Gap** – There are all sorts of ways to express your thoughts and opinions, especially these days. Try to avoid using emojis, texting acronyms/ confusing abbreviations, and other types of slang that could be misinterpreted.