

Small **G**roup **I**nstructional **F**eedback

Want constructive feedback from your students?

Don't wait until the end of term to find out how your students are reacting to your course. Instead, try a SGIF while you still have time to adjust to the needs of this term's learners.

SGIF is a voluntary process initiated by any instructor who wishes to get student feedback on strengths and areas for improvement.

LEARNING AND TEACHING CENTRE



What is SGIF?

SGIF (Small Group Instructional Feedback) is a simple, powerful way to improve instruction.

A trained facilitator first meets with the instructor to set objectives for the SGIF process in a particular class.

Then, using a structured group process, the facilitator visits the class without the instructor for about 30-45 minutes. The visit usually takes place after at least four weeks of instruction and before the mid-term point of the course.

Afterward, the facilitator and instructor meet to debrief and plan.



How do I start?

When you, the instructor, meet with the facilitator you will discuss:

- how the process works
- relevant course details
- how you will introduce SGIF and the facilitator to the students.
- the date, time, and place for the class session
- the date, time, and place for the feedback session

Is it confidential?

Results are treated as confidential and ALL written materials become property of the instructor. No records are kept that a SGIF was held. Facilitators do not discuss SGIF results with anyone other than the instructor requesting it.



How is it done?

During the classroom session, the facilitator:

- A. asks groups of four to six students three questions:
 1. What do you like about this course?
 2. What areas do you think need improvement?
 3. What suggestions do you have for making improvements?
- B. helps the class synthesize the feedback.

What are the benefits?

There are benefits for the students and for the instructor.

Students:

- recognize that instructors care about their learning
- prefer this method to highly structured questionnaires
- appreciate the mid-term timing because they benefit from changes that result
- recognize how their opinions differ from others in the class
- recognize their share of responsibility for the success of the course.

Instructors:

- prefer the personal interaction with, and support of, a colleague
- appreciate the data being presented in a form that is objective and easy to use
- become aware of the diversity of student opinions
- get feedback from the students in time to solve problems.

How do I request a SGIF?

Contact your BCIT Learning and Teaching Centre (LTC) School Liaison or phone the LTC at 604-432-8406 and your liaison will call you back.

SGIFs are done at any BCIT campus for day or evening classes for any instructor.