Dynamic Learning Dialogue

The Dynamic Learning Dialogue* is an early to mid-semester evaluation technique that provides instructors with rich qualitative feedback from their students regarding the learning environment in a course. Feedback obtained from a Dynamic Learning Dialogue can be used for focused reflections on one's teaching to enhance classroom interactions, student learning, and teaching strategies.

Consultation Initiation
- Interested faculty members can contact CAFE (cafelongwood@gmail.com) to set up an initial appointment
- The initial appointment will be a 30-45 minutes discussion with a member of CAFE
  1. Faculty will discuss teaching and learning in their classroom and review the process of the Dynamic Learning Dialogue (including practical details such as when during the semester or class period CAFE will visit)
  2. The faculty member and CAFE consultant will set a date for classroom dialogue.

The Consultation Process
- The in-class process takes about 30-45 minutes
  1. On the day of dialogue, after the instructor leaves the room, the CAFE consultant introduces the process to the students. (see next page for introductory narrative)
  2. Students work individually and/or in small groups to answer questions on the Dynamic Learning Dialogue Student Survey (e.g., what is helping your learning in this course?)
  3. The CAFE consultant then solicits and discusses the results with the whole class, noting points of consensus as well differing perspectives
  4. The CAFE consultant collects student worksheets and concludes dialogue with students

Post-Consultation
- After the dialogue, the CAFE consultant prepares an anonymized student survey report of the results and destroys the original student survey worksheets
- The CAFE consultant meets with the instructor to review the anonymized student survey report. This includes helping the instructor reflect on the data and brainstorm future courses of action (30-60 minutes)
- After the follow-up meeting, the faculty member has up to 48 hours to request a PDF copy of the anonymized student survey report. After this time, the report will be deleted.
- CAFE will only retain a record that the instructor participated in the Dynamic Learning Dialogue, the dates of participation, and if the process was completed.

*Adapted from the TAP consultation process at James Madison University https://www.jmu.edu/cfi/teaching/teaching-consultations/taps.shtml

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Introduction to Students

My name is _____. I am here from the Center for Faculty Enrichment (CAFE).

As you know, Longwood University values high-quality teaching and encourages all faculty to continuously work to maintain effective learning environments. In this spirit, your professor has requested that our Center get input from all of you on your learning experiences in this class.

We appreciate [instructor's name] investment in continuous improvement in her/his teaching and hope you also recognize the value of your instructor's time and effort in this process as well. Your involvement today will give your professor additional information for planning both the remainder of this class as well as future courses. We ask that you trust your professor's decisions regarding changes made based on your recommendations.

We ensure your anonymity during this process; your professor will not know which students made which comments. Here's what we will be doing. First, in small groups, you will answer questions about your learning experiences. Then, we'll discuss your responses as a class. I will be collecting your responses and taking notes. After today's meeting, I'll type up the class responses to create an anonymous report. Finally, I will share that anonymous report with your professor.

Are there any questions at this point?

Okay, let's look at the questions before your begin.

CAFE
CENTER FOR FACULTY ENRICHMENT

Dynamic Learning Dialogue

Instructor: **Course:**   **Consultant:**   **Date:**

What helps YOUR learning in this course? How does this help?	What hinders YOUR learning in this course? How does this hinder?	What suggestions do you have to improve your learning in this class? How would this help?
What are YOU doing that helps your learning in this course? How does this help?	**What are YOU doing that hinders your learning in this course?** How does this hinder?	**What could YOU do to improve your learning in this class?** How would this help?