

Appendix A: Participation Survey

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CONSENT FORM: **Electronic Survey for Writing Instructors**

You are invited to contribute to a research study on the function of *student participation* in the writing classroom. You must be at least 18 years of age to participate in this study.

Participation in this study will require about 45 minutes of your time. There are minimal risks or discomforts associated with this research. You may find filling out the survey interesting and it may prompt you to think more deeply about your teaching. The results from this survey will be used to get a better understanding of how writing instructors develop expectations about student participation and how those expectations are conveyed to students.

If you decide to participate, any information obtained in connection with this study will be strictly confidential and the researcher will not be able to identify the source of any information supplied by you in the course of this study. In any written reports or publications, no one will be identified or identifiable and only aggregate data will be presented.

Your decision whether or not to participate will not affect your future relations with The Ohio State University or any of the research involved in any way. If you decide to participate, you are free to discontinue participation at any time without affecting such relationships.

Feel free to ask the researcher questions. If you have questions about your rights as a research subject not answered by the researcher, you may contact The Ohio State University Office of Responsible Research Practices.

You may request a copy of this form to keep.

You are not required to answer any of the questions below, except question 1 which indicates your consent. You may skip any question you choose and it will not affect your ability to complete the survey.

You are making a decision whether or not to participate. Clicking “Yes” below counts as your signature and agreement on this consent form. You may withdraw at any time without prejudice after clicking “Yes” should you choose to discontinue participation in this study. Selecting “No” below will exit you from this survey.

I consent to the above terms and I understand that my participation is voluntary.

Yes/No

Survey for Writing Instructors

Instructions: The data from this survey will be used in a study of *student participation* in the writing classroom. You are not required to answer any or all of the questions. Your involvement is voluntary and you may exit the survey at any time.

1. Do you currently teach, or have you in the past, taught a writing course for which students earned college credit?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No (if no, thank for time, exit survey)

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All the remaining questions are optional--you can choose to answer as few or as many as you like. Please notice there is a save feature at the top of this and every subsequent page. Later in the survey, I will ask for some written answers. You can answer them, skip them entirely, or choose to save and come back later.

2. Which types of college writing courses have you taught?
 - a. Required first-year writing course
 - b. NON-required first-year writing course
 - c. Second-level, advanced composition, or writing-across the curriculum course
 - d. Business, professional, or technical writing
 - e. Creative writing
 - f. Other; please specify:
3. What type of position do you currently hold?
 - a. Graduate Student
 - b. Faculty—Non-tenure track (Adjunct or Instructor)
 - c. Faculty—Tenure Track
 - d. Other—Academic
 - e. Other—Non-Academic
 - f. Retired
4. What is your background or experience with composition and rhetoric as a discipline?
 - a. Composition and rhetoric is my primary area of study. I have a graduate degree completed or in progress in composition and rhetoric.
 - b. Composition and rhetoric is my secondary area of study. I have a graduate degree completed or in progress in another area but have coursework or training in composition and rhetoric.
 - c. I have no coursework or training in composition and rhetoric
 - d. Other []
5. Why type of institution is your current employer?
 - a. I am not currently teaching
 - b. Two year college
 - c. Four year institution—undergraduate only
 - d. Four year institution with graduate programs
 - e. Other
6. How long have you taught writing courses?
 - a. Less than one year
 - b. 1-2 years
 - c. 3-5 years
 - d. 5-10 years
 - e. 10-20 years
 - f. more than 20 years

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I am particularly interested in your responses based on your experience teaching required first-year writing. However, if you do not regularly teach a required first-year writing course, please answer based on your experience teaching other writing-intensive courses.

7. When you teach writing, do you base, or have you based, final student grades in any part on students' participation (below I will invite you to explain how you define participation, but this may include students' participation in oral classroom discussions, in group activities, in electronic discussion boards, or other sites where the assessment is based on participation in the activity.)
 - a. Yes; I always based part of student grades on participation
 - b. Sometimes; I have not always included participation in students' final grades
 - c. No; I never assess students in my writing courses based on their participation
8. Do you currently teach at an institution which requires you or prevents you from assessing participation?
 - a. No
 - b. Yes--My institution requires me to include participation in students' final grades.
 - c. Yes--My institution prevents me from including participation in students' final grades.
 - d. Other: []

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(Participants must have answered a or b on question 7 for this page to load)

9. What weight do you generally give participation in your writing courses?
 - a. Less than 5% (this might include syllabi statements indicating you will adjust borderline final grades based on student participation.)
 - b. 5%-9%
 - c. 10%-19%
 - d. 20%-29%
 - e. 30% or more
 - f. Other; please explain:
10. Do you assess student activities inside the classroom as part of participation?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
11. Do you assess student activities outside the classroom as part of participation?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
12. Do you count oral communication as student participation?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
13. Do you count written participation as student participation?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
14. Do you count small group work as student participation?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
15. Do you count student conferences with the instructor as student participation?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
16. Do you count student contributions online as part of participation?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
17. Do you count students' oral contributions in full-class discussion as student participation?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
18. How do you assess participation in your face-to-face writing courses? I am interested in the process by which you arrive at the participation grades assigned to your students.

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19. Who are the audiences for required student participatory acts? In other words, when students participate in a way that you assess, is the audience for that participation the teacher, or other members of a small group, or the whole class, or the student participating?

	Always	Sometimes	Never
How often is the audience for a student participatory act the instructor?			
How often is the audience for a student participatory act small group members?			
How often is the audience for a student participatory act the student himself or herself?			
How often is the audience for a student participatory act the full class?			

20. When in the writing process do students earn participation? (Check all that apply)

- a. As part of invention activities?
- b. As part of drafting activities?
- c. As part of peer revision activities?
- d. Other

21. What are you trying to encourage with required student participation? (Check all that apply)

- a. Increased oral contributions in class
- b. Better preparation for class
- c. Better writing
- d. Other

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22. Do you or have you taught courses in a computer-mediated environment where students all have access to computers (desktops or laptops) every class period?

- a. Yes
- b. No

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(Participants must have answer a on question 22 for this page to load)

23. Do you change your participation requirement for computer-mediated writing classrooms?

- a. Yes
- b. No

24. Do you see a change in your students' participation or do you have different goals/requirements for participation? Please explain. If you've *only* taught in computer-mediated writing classrooms, please note that.

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25. Do you teach or have you taught writing courses that are fully online, i.e. have no face to face meetings?

- a. Yes
- b. No

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(Participants must have answered a on question 25 for this page to load)

26. Do you change your participation requirement for online writing classes?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
27. Do you see a change in your students' participation or your participation goals/requirements in fully online classes? Please explain. If you've only taught online, please note that.

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28. How do you define participation in your face-to-face writing classes? Please explain what you had in mind as you answered the previous question.
29. Are there changes in the type, the quantity, or the quality of participation depending on the type of writing class you're teaching?

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30. What do you see as the role of participation in the teaching of writing? What do you think are the goals or objectives of your participation requirements/expectations?
31. What is the goal for including participation? In other words, what do you hope students gain by participating?
32. If you include a statement about participation on your syllabi, please copy and paste one or more statements of participation from recent syllabi if available.
33. To the extent that you can recall, from where have your beliefs about participation developed?

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34. Are you willing to provide contact information for a possible follow-up? Your personal information will *not* be associated with your responses above. Your responses to the above questions *will remain anonymous*.
 - a. Yes
 - b. No

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(Participants must have answered A on question 34 for this page to load)

35. Name: []
36. Email: []
37. Mailing Address: []

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Thank you for taking my survey. Please direct any questions or comments to: Genevieve Critel at critel.1@osu.edu or (614) 292-6065.