



TA Peer Observation Guide

You can become more aware of details that work in a classroom when you adopt the role of an observer. Use this template to keep a running log of what's happening, take notes on the classroom environment, and jot down any questions/comments for follow-up.

SESSION LOG	CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENT	
<p>Keep a log of what is happening in the session. In particular, note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the TA doing? • What are the students doing? <p>Example:</p> <p>0:00 TA starts class, hands back papers</p> <p>0:05 TA announces small group activity, explains task, writes instructions on board.</p> <p>0:08 Students break up into groups, one student not following instructions, TA asked student if he wanted to join in, student then complied.</p> <p>0:10 Students begin group work</p> <p>0:12 Student in first group checking Facebook</p> <p>0:13 TA checks in on first group, student on Facebook closes computer, TA asks what their answer to first question is.</p> <p>...</p>	<p>Observe how the classroom environment (the physical set-up, the social and emotional space) supports learning.</p> <p>Start noting these things as soon as you enter the room:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Room adequate for needs of class? (seating, technology, board space, lighting, etc.) • Tables/chairs arranged well for each activity? • Students seem comfortable and relaxed? • TA chatting and friendly? • Number of students present? 	
	<th data-bbox="808 951 1529 1010">QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FOR FOLLOW-UP</th> <p data-bbox="808 1010 1529 1917"> Note things that stood out to you for later follow-up with the TA you are observing: <p>Types of things to notice:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Time spent by students on active vs. passive tasks (e.g. writing vs. listening) • Explanations of plan for the day (agenda posted/announced? relevance of activities explained? expectations explicit?) • TA talk time vs. student talk time (does TA dominate? do all students talk? for how long?) • Accountability (does TA follow through on things students have been asked to do?) • Engagement of students (paying attention? Texting?) • Time management of class • Use of board/technology? • TA movement (front only? roaming?) </p>	QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FOR FOLLOW-UP

TA being observed: _____ Observer: _____

Course: _____ Date: _____

SESSION LOG	CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENT
<p>Keep a log of what is happening in the session. In particular, note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is the TA doing?• What are the students doing?	<p>Observe how the classroom environment (the physical set-up, the social and emotional space) supports learning.</p>
	<p>QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FOR FOLLOW-UP</p> <p>Note things that stood out to you for later follow-up with the TA you are observing.</p> <div data-bbox="950 1428 1421 1858"><p>Did you notice anything that you want to try in your own classroom?</p></div>