Centre for Teaching and Learning

The Centre for Teaching and Learning has as its mission to support and promote teaching and learning excellence, innovation, and scholarship at the University of British Columbia Okanagan.

The Centre for Teaching and Learning serves all faculties and schools at the University of British Columbia Okanagan. The Centre also provides support for graduate students/teaching assistants, post-doctoral fellows/scholars, and sessional/adjunct faculty.

Centre for Teaching and Learning
The University of British Columbia
SCI 200 - 1177 Research Road
Kelowna, BC Canada V1V 1V7

Phone: 250.807.9293
Website: ctl.ok.ubc.ca
E-mail: ctl.helpdesk@ubc.ca

2017
Ending the Term on the Right Note

It is important to plan how you will bring the course to a successful end for your students and for you. Ask yourself:

• Have I graded and returned all the work of my students?
• Have I prepared my students for a final assessment?
• Have I prepared my students for the next stages/courses in their program?
• Did the students achieve all of the intended learning outcomes?
• Was this a good experience for my students and myself?
• Will I teach this course again, and if so, what adjustments need to be made?

Some good end-of-term activities are:

• Organize a review session with the students before a final exam. This can be led by you, your TAs, or students in study groups, in class, and supplemented with online activities.

• Review the learning outcomes of the course with your students.

• Have students alone or in pairs create a concept map outlining what they view as the important concepts and related ideas of the course. Clarify any misconceptions arising from the maps.

• Review the grading you have done for the assessments in the course, and try to finalize any issues.

• Schedule extra office hours to ensure your students can get any help they need.

• During your final meeting with the students, let them know of possible career paths, programs, research areas that your course fits to enable them to see the benefits and possible opportunities that exist beyond the last class.

A survey of college faculty from a variety of disciplines at two different institutions demonstrated that faculty members typically end their courses with final projects, papers and review sessions (Eggleston & Smith, 2001). Some faculty did more, and 30% responded that they tried to leave their students with some final words of wisdom. At the same institutions, 90% of the students reported that they would appreciate more closure on their courses.

To learn more about ending the semester well, contact CTL (ctl.helpdesk@ubc.ca).