

# Using Evaluation Strategies to Improve Teaching

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Instructors can use multiple  
evaluation strategies to  
improve teaching



# Why use Multiple Methods?

- No one data source is sufficient to stand alone
- Create a system of checks and balances when multiple sources are used
- Each data source presents a different perspective

# End-of-Semester Student Ratings

- Most common form used in the United States
- Student evaluations focus on students' perceptions and opinions of the instructor's teaching across the entire semester

# Example of Standardized Survey

SD      SA      My instructor:

1 2 3 4 5      ➤ Explains clearly

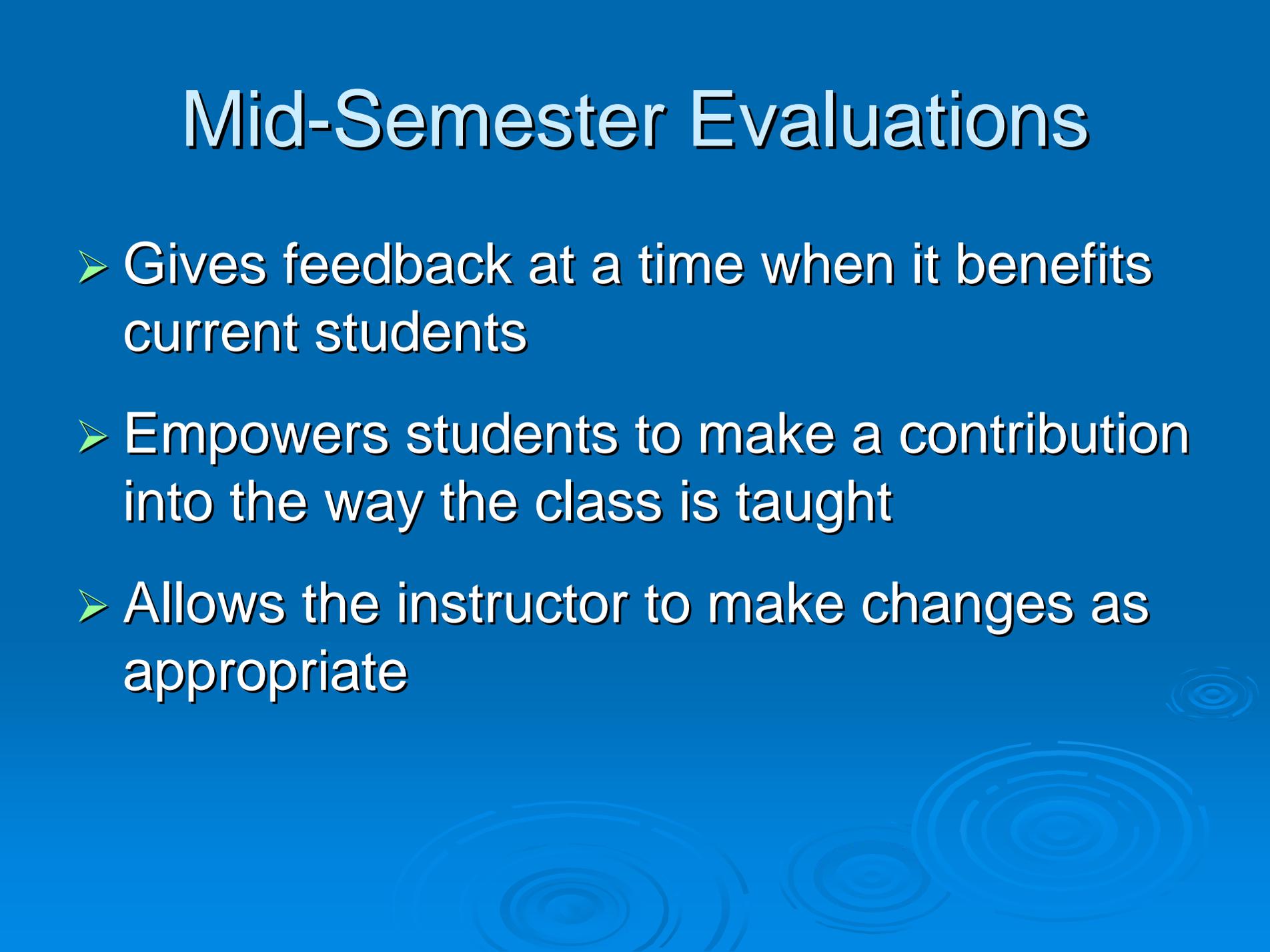
1 2 3 4 5      ➤ Is well prepared

1 2 3 4 5      ➤ Summarizes major points

# Example of Open-Ended Questions

- What have been the most positive/negative aspects of this course?
- Were the instructor's handouts and review sheets useful? Should they be used in this course in the future?
- Should the same grading format (exams, assignments, discussion) be used?

# Mid-Semester Evaluations

- Gives feedback at a time when it benefits current students
  - Empowers students to make a contribution into the way the class is taught
  - Allows the instructor to make changes as appropriate
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# Mid-Term Examples

- Changes that would make this course better for me are \_\_\_\_\_.
- The quizzes are \_\_\_\_\_.
- What can we do differently to improve your learning?

# Self-Evaluations

- Creates a systematic way to reflect
- Enables a comparison with student views
- Provides an opportunity to compare one's philosophy and goals with actual practice

# Self-Evaluation Examples

- Was I really interested in the material I was teaching?
- Was my presentation well-paced? Did I pause when I asked students to respond?
- What would you most like your students to remember about you as a teacher ten years from now? Why?

# Summary

- Develop a comprehensive evaluation plan for assessment
- Use multiple forms of assessments to create an effective strategy for teaching improvement
- Multiple sources of data form the foundation for the generation of a teaching portfolio, one of the best strategies for improving teaching.