

Midterm Assessment of Teaching @ Fairfield

What is a MAT? (Midterm Assessment of Teaching)

A MAT is an informal, confidential, and off-the-record way for you to get constructive student feedback on student learning and your teaching. MATs are offered midway through a term, so there is time to make adjustments or improvements based on MAT results.

During a 20-minute MAT your students are guided by a MAT consultant to: (i) write anonymous responses to three open-ended questions (*What is the instructor doing that is most helping you learn in the course? What would you like to see done that would most improve your learning? AND What can you – as a student – do to improve learning in this course?*), (ii) discuss their responses in small groups, and (iii) discuss their feedback as a whole-class. MAT consultants have students clarify their comments and articulate helpful suggestions, and to make feedback as clear and useful to you as possible.

The student feedback gathered during a MAT is transcribed, analyzed for themes, and shared with you during a post-MAT meeting to discuss the results, brainstorm ways of integrating student feedback into your teaching, and discuss your strategy for following-up with your students.

Confidentiality Policy: The CAE does not disclose to anyone the content of any MAT consultation, or the fact that a MAT with any individual has or has not taken place.

To retain our formative / improvement function, the CAE does not reveal which individuals have used our services without prior consent. We also do not advocate for or argue against promotion, tenure or retention of faculty.

The MAT Process

How the MAT Process works...

