

FTTS W05

Updating your joint evaluation to include both quarters

We (the faculty) will send you a copy of your joint evaluation from last quarter that will serve as a starting point for your final evaluation. You will also have a copy of the course description (don't repeat what's in there). Your task is to consider your progress this quarter and amend your draft eval accordingly. Refer to the syllabus reading list and your portfolio to refresh your memory about everything that we've done this quarter. In some places, you may add a sentence or two to existing paragraphs to include this quarter, whereas in others (e.g. independent project) you will need to add another paragraph.

Sample Structure (note: this is not the only possible, effective structure)

- Introductory paragraph includes attendance, an overall statement about general effort and achievement.
- Two or more paragraphs on the contents covered in lectures, workshops, and field trips. These include forest ecology (Fall and Winter quarters), some elements of evolutionary biology (from Fall quarter), and conservation and land use issues associated with current threats to forests (Winter quarter). Discuss what you've learned (but don't reiterate the course description) and how well you know this material.
- Paragraph on your independent project.
- Paragraph on the most important learning you did in the program, your best work.
- Short summary.

Suggested topics to cover

General Intro

- Attendance & completion of all assigned work
- Did you participate fully in all aspects of the program?
- What were your goals, and how well did you achieve them for the quarter?
- Consider your level of understanding at the beginning of the program and your current understanding of the topics covered in the program.

Lecture/ workshop portion

- How well do you understand the topics and concepts covered in lectures and workshops? You can deal with the disciplines separately or mix them together.
- Do you fully grasp all of the details or only the main concepts?
- What degree of improvement happened during the quarter?
- Has this increased understanding affected how you think about things and view the world? Any examples?
- Do you feel confident in your ability to think creatively with these new ideas/information?
- How are your quantitative skills? How does this compare with where you were at the beginning of the program?
- Did you complete all the study questions before class? Did you contribute to increasing the understanding of the material in your study group?

Independent research project

Start out with a one or two sentence description of your project question or topic.

- Library research skills: How are they? Can you confidently find relevant scientific information?
- Are you comfortable reading and understanding the peer-reviewed literature?
- Did you have a well-defined question or focus for your project?
- How well did you research your topic?
- How well did you organize the information for your paper and presentation?
- Did your skills for reading, summarizing, and presenting technical information improve?
- How was your paper and presentation? What did you learn about the process?
- What did you learn doing your project? Was your learning demonstrated in the final paper?

Field work

- What did you learn during the field trips?
- Do you fully grasp all of the details or only the main concepts?
- Has this increased understanding affected how you think about things and view the world? Any examples?
- Were there any particular field moments that had increased impact on your understanding/learning?

Summary

What was your best work in this program? Why?

In what areas are there still room for improvement?

Considering where you were at the beginning of the program, what sort of progress have you made? Do you feel that your progress reflects your abilities?

Were there any concepts or information that really struck you? How has this changed the way you view the world? Why?

How will the knowledge you gained during this quarter be used in the future? How does it relate to your previous experiences?