

TEACHING TIPS FROM THE WTI: THE EXIT TICKET

Good writing assignments evoke a high level of critical thinking, help students wrestle productively with a course's big questions, and teach disciplinary ways of seeing, knowing, and doing. (Bean and Melzer 2)



How Myra Navarro Uses Exit Tickets in CRIJ 1310 (via Zoom)

The primary mode of instruction in this course is the weekly scheduled Zoom class lecture. Students are required to complete an Exit Ticket after every scheduled Zoom class lecture. Students who miss a scheduled Zoom class lecture, have the option of listening back to the recorded Zoom lecture and completing the Exit Ticket. For each Exit Tickets, students choose to answer three questions from a set of eight possible questions that assess understanding, apply the concept learned, and/or demonstrate the concept learned.

Each Exit Ticket will be worth 100 points. Exit Tickets constitute 10% of the overall final course grade.



What is an Exit Ticket?

Exit tickets are short, informal written responses from students to questions posed at the end of class.

They usually take no more than five minutes and can be used to help professors assess students' understanding of the material and receive feedback. They can be graded or ungraded.

Exit Ticket Assignment Instruction:

From the list below, select three (3) questions you would like to answer about today's lecture. Each answer should be a minimum of 4-6 complete sentences.

- 1. How well do you feel you understood today's lesson? Provide example.
- 2. What is one thing you'd like me to explain more clearly?
- 3. What was the most important thing you learned in today's class? Why is it important?
- 4. What is the most difficult question you have about what you learned today?
- 5. How could the knowledge you learned today be used in the real world and/or chosen profession?
- 6. What's one thing you want to practice again?
- 7. What are you struggling to understand at the moment?
- 8. What would you like to learn more about?
- **This same set of eight questions is used all semester.

Uses and Benefits of 1 Minute Papers

Exit tickets provide useful information, both for you and your students. They can help reveal which of your students understand the class material and which don't and help you gauge how students are feeling about their learning. They can also reveal any sweeping misconceptions that need to be clarified or retaught. Importantly, they can help you target students who are struggling and may need additional help.

Exit tickets also promote communication between teacher and students, giving quiet or shy students the opportunity to express themselves without having to raise their hand. In short, exit tickets increase students' participation in the learning process and send the message that students' thinking is valued. They can also provide valuable insight into how students perceive the learning environment in your classroom and if their needs are being met.

The SAC Writing & Thinking Institute, a project of the SAC Teaching & Learning Center, promotes the use of writing as an instructional tool for learning and critical thinking across the curriculum at San Antonio College.

Bean, John and Dan Melzer. Engaging Ideas: A Professors Guide to Integrating Writing, Critical Thinking, and Active Learning in the Classroom. 3rd Ed., Jossey-Bassey, 2021.