G.I.F.T. Survey Instructions for Faculty Members: The G.I.F.T.* (Group Informal Feedback on Teaching) Survey, below, is a great way to solicit positive, constructive feedback from your students about your teaching. The exact wording below is important – this instrument has been tested and validated, etc. If you administer this during the term, it provides your students with an opportunity to tell you what you should be doing differently while you still have a chance to make changes (versus after the entire course is over, which is when you typically receive feedback from university teaching evaluations). Your students are the best experts on what works and what doesn’t in your class. On the other hand, administering it during the term provides you with an opportunity to explain why you are doing things the way that you are and why you can’t do other things (like work more homework problems in class) that both you and they would like to do. By giving you both a chance to talk about issues now, it is less likely that many of these things will still be “issues” at the end of the term when they officially evaluate you. To be effective, this survey should be given to your class about 1/3 to 1/2 the way through the term (sometime after the first exam). The responses should be anonymous. I have found that its best to read out loud a summary of their feedback to the entire class, by question, the very next class period (which provides you with the opportunity to talk about their feedback) and make at least 1 or 2 changes based on their feedback so that they will realize you are serious about this exercise. You will find that failure to close the loop this way will irritate your students and diminish the effectiveness of this exercise.

Here is the student survey:

**Group Informal Feedback on Teaching**

Please write brief, honest and legible answers to the questions below.

1) What are 1 or 2 specific things your instructor does that help you learn in this course?

2) What are 1 or 2 specific things your instructor does that hinder or interfere with you learning?

3) Please give your instructor 1 or 2 specific, practical suggestions on ways to help you improve your learning in this course.