

Options for Instructors: Ways to Work with Consultants

These SCOT activities are done with training and assistance from AE3 staff. An AE3 staff member will accompany a SCOT on classroom observations and group interviews.

1. *Classroom Observation:* The SCOT and AE3 staff member meet with the professor prior to class for guidance on what to focus on for the observation. For example: How often do certain kinds of students respond? Why aren't the students getting involved in discussions? Are the students asking questions among themselves? What hinders their learning? Is the instructor helping students make connections between the current course materials and related concepts? The SCOT and AE3 staff member write a summary report and discuss the results with the instructor during the post-observation debriefing. (If desired, a video of the class can be made during the observation time).
2. *Group Interview:* The instructor leaves the classroom for the last fifteen minutes of class while the SCOT interviews students to assess how well they are learning and how they perceive the class. The SCOT asks the students to respond verbally and in writing to these questions:
 - What helps your learning in this class?
 - What hinders your learning in this class?
 - What suggestions do you have for this class?

The SCOT and AE3 staff member compile the data into a report and discuss the results with the instructor.

3. *Research Assistants:* SCOTs may be able to assist faculty with collecting and analyzing data about courses and student learning. This fits with the campus emphasis on the "scholarship of teaching and learning." We also hope to involve the SCOTs in College grant programs (GATE and SIIP) where they may be part of the proposal review committees and also assist in collection of targeted instructional feedback.

NOTE: This Illinois College of Engineering SCOT program is modeled on the "original" BYU SCOT program. Many thanks to the BYU teaching center staff for providing guidelines and documents.
