Session 10: Assessments, Observations and Reflections

Session Overview

This Review & Feedback session serves two purposes. First, participants have the chance to observe their peers' near-final activity, and learn how to review and provide critical and substantive feedback to colleagues. Second, participants learn about how they will be graded by the instructors for the final presentation and paper. Participants revisit the major ideas from the course, as a means to identify the key elements of the assessment tool. Participants are introduced to the assessment tool – an observation instrument, which participants will then use to observe their peers present their activity to the public. Instructors of the course may also consider using this observation instrument to assess how participants communicate their scientific knowledge to the public and thus apply their understanding of the key concepts in this course.

Session Objectives

In this session, participants:

- Review the major ideas on learning and teaching from this course.
- Use an assessment tool to observe classmates present their activity and provide peer feedback.
- Reflect on how participants communicate their scientific knowledge using peer feedback.

Session Activities at a Glance

**Quick Write.** Participants reflect on and write about how they would know if their activity is successful.

**Discussion: Major Ideas from the Course.** Participants discuss what information would be helpful for them to let them know their activity and presentation are successful. Participants are introduced to an Observation Instrument as an assessment and reflection tool.

**Activity: Peer Observations.** Participants add examples to the Observation Instrument and then use the tool as they take turns observing one another present their activities.

**Discussion: Debrief Peer Observations.** Partners debrief their peer observations with one another; participants do a whole group debrief commenting on their experience observing one another and gathering observation data.

**Homework.** Readings and tasks are assigned including participants prepare written feedback to their peers.