



The Teaching Observation by Peers (TOPS) program at UAMS provides a voluntary, confidential and formative observation with feedback opportunity to UAMS faculty. Observers make notes of classroom atmosphere, student engagement, instructor activities, etc., along with observing the following types of items. Together, the observer's notes, the more formalized items below, and the essential self-reflection by the faculty member, form the basis for feedback and suggestions for teaching.

Course Management

- Class time (e.g., beginning, ending on time)
- Active learning techniques (e.g. Think-Pair-Share, Audience Response)
- PowerPoint (e.g., visual clarity, spelling, avoids reading from screen)
- Classroom technology, software
- Demonstrations
- Handouts

Lecture Techniques

- Provides topic overview, objectives
- Uses relevant examples
- Appropriate and clear questions
- Pace, flow
- Provides conclusions, take home message

Presentation Skills

- Voice quality, loudness
- Makes eye contact with students
- Posture, hand gestures
- Engagement, enthusiasm

Student Interaction

- Respect for students
- Reinforces student participation
- Has rapport with students

We invite you to contact the Educators Academy at <http://educationaldevelopment.uams.edu/> or lso@uams.edu for more information.