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The SATAL program is a pedagogical support program for instructors interested in collecting the students' perspectives on their learning experiences in their courses, so they can respond to their students' needs to create inclusive and equitable environments.

Resource exploration <https://teach.ucmerced.edu/about-SATAL>

The SATAL website provides information on how the program assesses teaching practices throughout the semester. It also serves as a hub for resources that help instructors refine their approaches based on student feedback.

First Week of Class Ideas [[link](#)]

Encourages instructors to begin the semester with an entry survey to gain insight into “who is in class” and your students’ lived experiences. This information helps tailor the course to better meet the diverse needs of our students from the outset.

Assessment Community of Practice (CoP)

A supportive group of instructors, particularly within the same discipline, can engage in conversations and assessments to enhance teaching practices. This CoP includes implementing mid-semester feedback and class observations conducted by trained undergraduates in your course, as well as one collaborative meeting to discuss findings, affirm what is working, and explore changes in the company of fellow instructors. These activities are designed to break the isolation often associated with teaching, and promote reflection, community, and joy when making data-informed decisions in your courses. Tomkin et al. (2019) identified that the CoPs work best when they are made up of small, disciplinary teams working together.

Classroom Research Support

SATAL offers a Centralized Institutional Review Board (IRB) protocol to streamline the classroom research process. This allows instructors to gather data on their teaching practices and potentially publish their findings, contributing to instructors’ education research development and the research community.

Invitation to Get Involved

Instructors are encouraged to share their reflections, questions, or comments. This interaction helps tailor the support provided to meet the specific needs of instructors and students at UC Merced, promoting continuous improvement in teaching and learning.