

Getting the Most Out of the Last Five Minutes of Class

By Austin Martin Williams. 28 Persp. Teaching Legal Res. & Writing 36 (2020).

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Reviewer's Summary:

In this article, Williams notes that experiential courses require a self-assessment component, and describes the "3-2-1 Classroom Assessment Technique" (3-2-1 CAT), which he utilizes during the last five minutes of his legal research and practice technology class sessions. The self-assessment asks students to submit, in writing, at the conclusion of or following a class, responses to the following prompts: list (1) three things that they learned; (2) two things that they find confusing; and (3) one way that they might apply what you learned. Benefits of the CAT Method include providing students an opportunity to reflect on areas of concern before completing graded work, providing instructors immediate feedback regarding areas requiring more extensive coverage (whether with the group or on a targeted, individual basis), and highlighting difficulties raised by content covered outside the classroom (i.e. assigned readings). Williams also discusses drawbacks and limitations of the method as an assessment tool.

Summarized by: Meredith Capps, Vanderbilt University Law Library, in 2021.