

4. Subject Reviewer Training – source: HESDA

Teaching, Learning and Assessment

Observing Laboratory Work

This is one of the most challenging forms of teaching to observe since there are so many features to explore.

Clarity of Purpose

Was the purpose of the session explained clearly at the outset?
Do the students and the demonstrator(s) appear to know what they are expected to do?

Involvement

Do the students and demonstrators appear to know what they are doing?
Are the students involved in their tasks?
Are only one or two in each group doing the work?
Are the discussions amongst the students
a) concerned with the task, and
b) indicative that learning is being developed

Demonstrators

Are the demonstrators observing the students at work?
Are they assisting appropriately?
In discussion with students, do they ask questions which help the other students' understanding?
Do they provide clear explanations of procedures?
Are they familiar with the difficulties of the experiments which the students are doing?

Organisation of the Laboratory

Is there any unnecessary queuing for the use of equipment?
Are there adequate health and safety precautions?
Do the students have sufficient time to complete the practical work?
Do they have sufficient time for calculations and, if appropriate, for writing up?

PEER OBSERVATION OF TEACHING

What I observed		Comments Questions
<i>What lecturer does...</i> <i>What students do...</i> <i>Environment...</i> <i>Handouts, AV aids...</i>	Time	